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DEDICATION.

To the brave women who to-day are fighting for freedom: to the noble women who all down the ages kept the flag flying and looked forward to this day without seeing it: to all women all over the world, of whatever race, or creed, or calling, whether they be with us or against us in this fight, we dedicate this paper.

THE OUTLOOK.

Once again Mr. Asquith, protected by a posse of police, has closed the door to a deputation of women, who have been arrested and imprisoned in consequence. In doing this he has proved clearly the absolute need of women to possess the vote in order to remedy their grievances. Since he has been Prime Minister, though he has received many deputations of men, he has invariably refused to receive a deputation of women.

Story of the Deputation.

The events which led up to the arrest and imprisonment of the women were as follows:—On Wednesday, March 24, at a great meeting at the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, a resolution was passed forming a deputation to wait upon Mr. Asquith. Miss Christabel Pankhurst accordingly wrote to the Prime Minister asking him to fix a time to receive them. Mr. Asquith replied in his usual manner refusing to do so. But, in spite of this refusal, the deputation, which had since been joined by other women from other parts of the country, determined to proceed, and, taking all risks, to go to Mr. Asquith at the House of Commons on Tuesday afternoon. This they accordingly did, and, being barred by the police, eleven of them were arrested. On the following morning they

came up before the magistrate at Bow Street and were sentenced, in lieu of finding sureties, ten to one month's and one to three months' imprisonment—a term which they are now serving in Holloway. On the following day, as we went to press, a further deputation endeavoured to interview Mr. Asquith at the House of Commons, when nine women were arrested.

The Attitude of the Electors.

Though Mr. Asquith can meet the claim of women by coercion and imprisonment, he cannot check the flow of resentment in the country, and the unprecedented defeat of the Government candidate in Croydon will bring home to him how rapidly he is losing the support of the electors. Liberals are in the habit of claiming that the Labour vote is responsible in a large measure for their defeat, but in Croydon the Labour vote was far less than at the General Election, and yet the majority against the Liberal was increased from 638 to nearly 4,000. In this defeat the women played a very large part. In the report which we give elsewhere our correspondent notes the intelligent interest that was taken by the electors in the women's position. Press extracts which we quote tell the same story, and even Mr. Raphael, the defeated Liberal candidate, was constrained to admit that his defeat in a measure was due to "outside agencies."

No Sacrifice Too Great.

In our issue last week we referred to the hearty welcome which was given to the women prisoners who were released from Holloway on Wednesday morning, March 24. At the dinner in the evening at the Inns of Court Hotel a crowded gathering came together to listen to the speeches, which were exceptionally interesting. As one after another the prisoners related their experiences, and told how they were determined, at whatever cost, to press forward the agitation for the vote, the room rang with cheers, and everyone present felt that where these women had dared and done so much, no sacrifice could be too great and no work too arduous to be undertaken.

Arrangements to Welcome Mrs. Pethick Lawrence.

Before this issue is in the hands of our readers, Miss Gye, who has worked so splendidly for the cause on many occasions, will be once more in our midst. This still leaves the leader of the deputation of February 24, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, in Holloway, and we have pleasure in calling the attention of our readers to the arrangements which are being made for her welcome on Friday and Saturday, April 16 and 17, particulars of which will be found on page 503. We trust that the procession on Saturday will be enthusiastically taken up, and a fresh demonstration provided of the determination of women to win the vote.

Women Law Agents.

One of the disabilities which women suffer under the present law is their exclusion from many important positions by which they might earn a livelihood. Among the restricted professions is that of law agent in Scotland, in the case of which it was decided by the Supreme Court in 1901 that only men were eligible. We are glad to see that a Bill is being introduced into the House of Commons by Mr. Gulland to rectify this injustice, but we fear that until there are women voters to insist upon its enactment it has little chance of becoming law. We notice that two women, Miss McLaren and Miss Stuart, have just taken their LL.B. at Edinburgh University, being the first women to obtain this distinction there.

Special Features.

Among the interesting features of this issue is the Suffragette play, written specially for this paper by Miss Beatrice Harraden, and entitled "Lady Geraldine's Speech." We take this opportunity of thanking Miss Harraden for presenting us with this most interesting comedietta, which we are sure will be of the greatest interest to our readers. Mr. Pearse kindly contributes a cartoon dealing with the deputation, and also a special cartoon on the Croydon bye-election as a sequel to the one which appeared last week. Mr. Pethick Lawrence writes on the militant methods, and Miss Christabel Pankhurst deals with Mr. Asquith and his refusal to see the deputation. We specially call our readers' attention to the fact that the issue next week will be published on Thursday instead of on Friday, and that all contributions must reach the office not later than Monday morning, first post.

ELEMENTS OF THE WOMAN SUFFRAGE DEMAND.

By F. W. Pethick Lawrence.—Chapter VI.—Militant Methods.

"I come not to bring peace on earth, but a sword."

No one idea has done more to retard the progress of the human race than the exaltation of *submission* into a high and noble virtue. It may often be expedient to submit; it may even sometimes be morally right to do so in order to avoid a greater evil; but *submission* is not inherently beautiful—it is generally cowardly and frequently morally wrong.

This view is, of course, contrary to the teaching which has long prevailed. From time immemorial the rulers of men have demanded of their subjects *submission*, and have enforced it with their armies and their police and their prisons. But, not content with this, they have instigated the teachers and preachers of the people to extol it as a great moral and religious principle—a symbol of obedience to God Himself. This teaching has done incalculable evil. It has hindered the exercise of the real functions of the human body, it has destroyed the liberty of the human will, it has clipped the wings of the human imagination.

Particularly have those whose natures are peaceable and loving, who place the good of others before that of themselves, been led astray by this false doctrine. Not content with sacrificing themselves and their own true development entirely to the wishes of others, they have yielded even where their duties as guardians and protectors of the weak should have compelled them to stand firm. They have not seen that to give way under such circumstances, to be overruled and to fail to provide the protection required, was a serious breach of trust to be resisted at all costs and with the strongest power which it was possible to exert.

Serious as have been the consequences of this doctrine in other fields, they have been nowhere more fatal than in the case of women who have been led in large numbers to believe any other rule of conduct unwomanly. As a result, a whole set of ideas necessary for the proper evolution of the human race has been crushed out of existence, and the man's point of view has held exclusive sway.

Nothing in life is more beautiful than the relationship of the mother to the child, by which she gives freely and unhesitatingly of all that she has to the young life. This devotion is in accordance with the natural and highest instincts of her nature, but to transfer this devotion into *submission* to the will of others, even when such *submission* implies renunciation of the guardianship and proper care for her own children, is to pervert the primal instincts of woman into wrong and improper channels. In allowing her ideas to become subservient to those of men, she committed a breach of trust. To-day she has to recover her lost position.

The adoption of militant methods by women in this fight for the vote is the outward sign that they have at last abandoned this false and pernicious doctrine of *submission*. It is the recognition that they have duties to perform, services to render to the State and to one another, to men and to children, which they cannot and will not any longer leave undone. For centuries men have usurped the domination and treated women as an inferior and subject race. When women sought to obtain their proper place by methods of argument and entreaty, they were tricked and humbugged by politicians. To-day they have decided to submit no longer, and, realising that persuasion has failed, they have determined to use coercive measures.

This awakening of women to the stern realities of life is not to be regretted; it cannot be good for any section of the human family to live their lives in artificial surroundings cut off from actuality. Moreover, for many years women workers have suffered under stress of the laws of conflict and struggle which form part of the daily round. It was full time that their more sheltered sisters should no longer be deceived.

So far I have dealt with facts of universal application, true not merely of the fight for the vote, but of other conflicts in daily life. In dealing with the actual militant methods adopted by the Suffragettes, the opposition of a new set of objectors has to be met. They are perfectly aware that, in their social intercourse, in their business transactions, in their deal-

ings with their tradespeople, persuasion and courtesy are not enough, and that some form of pressure must be applied, but they say that they never have occasion to adopt methods even remotely similar to those used by the Suffragettes against their political opponents. They put a case in somewhat the following words:—

"If one of my friends does things to me which I do not like, or says things to me which are disagreeable, I do not dog his doorstep or send my children to annoy him or shout at him when he goes outside his house. If my landlord raises my rent or refuses to abide by the conditions of the lease, I do not make myself personally unpleasant to him. If my baker sells me bad bread or my fishmonger bad fish, I do not thereupon bring a body of customers together round his shop and force him to protect himself and his goods by a posse of police. I know quite well these are the wrong ways to get the matter put right, and if I adopted them I should not only make myself extremely ridiculous, but I should fail entirely of my object. Why, then, do you adopt these methods in trying to get the vote?"

The Unique Character of a Franchise Struggle.

The answer to this question lies in the fact that the struggle of a voteless section of the population to wrest for itself the franchise from the Government is a unique struggle, differing in essential particulars from any other struggle to obtain redress in the ordinary affairs of life. If your friend behaves badly to you in any way, it is always open to you to cease to have him for a friend; that will at once free you from the intrusion of his presence, and the knowledge that your friendship may be terminated by either of you at will serves always (if no higher consideration prevails) to deter him from saying or doing anything to you which might be a cause of offence. If your landlord fails to abide by the terms of the lease, you have the remedy of the law against him; if he raises your rent unduly, you can leave his house untenanted. If your fishmonger serves you with bad fish, or your baker with bad bread, you have the remedy always at hand in your ability to transfer your custom to other shops; and the knowledge that you can take this action if things go too far gives weight to your words of remonstrance which they would not otherwise possess.

But in the case of a Government you have no such means of redress. So long as you remain in the country you are constitutionally subject to the control of the Government and under the direct jurisdiction of the laws of the land which they enact and enforce. You cannot refuse to recognise the Government as a Government. You cannot if you are voteless bring constitutional pressure to bear to change the Government of the day. You cannot bring the law into action to enforce your rights, for the simple reason that you have no rights.

Faced with this position in the past, voteless men resorted to physical violence—they rioted and damaged property, they inflicted physical injury on those who stood in the way of their enfranchisement, and even did not stop at murder itself. The women who are fighting to-day for their rights have adopted methods which, though far more restrained, are equally effective in bringing direct pressure to bear upon the Government. They are methods which are essentially political, and their political effect is rapidly becoming understood.

It will be the object of future chapters to explain in detail and justify these methods. Meanwhile, the account next week will be devoted to the story of the inauguration of the militant policy in the autumn of 1905.

Amongst the names of women who were prominently connected with the first petition of fifteen hundred names, to which we referred last week, were those of Miss Emily Davies and Mrs. Wolstenholme Elmy. The former of these acted as Secretary in London, and was responsible for collecting a large number of London signatures. Mrs. Elmy collected several hundred in Manchester. The Franchise Committee which she formed for the purpose continued its existence after the names had been collected. Mrs. Elmy, as is well known, is an active worker for the suffrage to-day, and is a member of the Committee of the Women's Social and Political Union.

PROGRESS OF WOMEN.

Sweden and the Suffrage.

Some of the American papers recently published a report that the suffrage had been granted to Swedish women. It is amusing to find that the report arose out of a misapprehension. Whoever sent the dispatch that "all inhabitants" over twenty-four years of age in Sweden had been given a vote evidently forgot that Sweden was inhabited by women as well as men! It is significant of the changed attitude of the public mind that "all inhabitants" was generally taken to mean all inhabitants, and the dispatch has called out from the leading American dailies elaborate editorials on the full enfranchisement of the women of Sweden. Unfortunately, the news was premature.

Woman Suffrage in Jamaica.

In the Kingston Legislature, on March 25, a motion was submitted by an elected member to the effect that women who own property should be voters. Although the motion was lost, all the Government members voting against it, it was supported by eight out of the elected members present.

Women's Votes in Action.

Referring to the recent municipal elections in Denmark, the *Manchester Guardian* says:—"The old objections that the woman's vote would cause dissension in the home, that the women would not use the vote, that they would use it—detrimentally, of course—have all fallen to the ground. All day one saw a procession of married couples driving or walking together to the polling-booths, and although there was no disturbance of any sort, more than usual enthusiasm was displayed over the elections, the streets being patrolled all night by those waiting to hear the results. Out of 126,461 persons on the register 95,319 used their votes. The programme of the women candidates seems to have given great prominence to the necessity for improving the laws relating to abandoned children, and to the management of hospitals and crèches and of public charities generally."

The Bulgarian Women's Suffrage Association has a membership of about 5,000 persons, its president being the wife of the Prime Minister.

Improving Womanhood.

Three hundred young women of Chicago who are intending to be teachers have been examined and reported physically perfect. This is a larger proportion than has ever before stood the required test. The New York Normal School conducted a series of inquiries, which showed that nineteen-twentieths of girl pupils are taller than their mothers. With our young men deteriorating as they are in size and physique, says the *Woman's Tribune* (Oregon), nothing can save the race but this improving womanhood.

Miss Lilian Roff is the first woman to take the degree of Bachelor of Divinity at London University. She passed through the course with distinction.

Woman Head of Hospital.

Dr. Mary Merrit Crawford is the first woman to become head surgeon and chief of staff in a Brooklyn hospital. She has just entered upon her duties as house surgeon of the Williamsburgh Hospital. Dr. Crawford will have entire charge for four months and a-half, directing the work of four men. After that her term of office will expire, and then she intends to become a practising surgeon in Kings. Dr. Crawford took her B.A. degree from Cornell in 1904, and then entered the Cornell Medical College. Two years ago she took her M.D. When examinations for hospital service were held, in January, 1908, she and thirty-five men applied for the test. Dr. Crawford and two of the men were the only ones who passed.

Women as Sailing Masters.

A correspondent who read our paragraph on "Women Navigators" recently, sends us the interesting story of Miss Hannah Miller, who died some years ago. Miss Miller's father was a shipping merchant at Saltoats, became bankrupt, and died leaving a family of three girls and a much mortgaged estate. Betsy, the eldest daughter, determined to retrieve the honour of her family and clear off her father's debts. The chief asset was the brig

Clitus. This she got fitted out with a small crew, constituting herself as "sailing master," and carried on for many years a most successful trade with the Irish ports, clearing off the patronymic debts, and keeping herself and sisters in comfort. On Betsy's death, Miss Hannah Miller took over command of the brig, and for many years trod the quarter-deck and braved the perils of the Irish Channel.

Courageous Woman Telephonist.

The courage of a woman telephonist has been applauded in the Italian Press. As recorded in the *Tribuna*, a disastrous fire broke out on March 8 in the Central Urban Telephone Office in Turin. It destroyed the fittings and furniture in the communication-room, and would have spread irretrievably over the whole building had it not been for Signorina de Rossi, one of the operatives, who, with the fire blazing round her, telephoned to the fire office and brought firemen to the rescue. The men arrived in time to save the company's books and papers and preserve the suburban portion of the telephone apparatus, although the urban service apparatus as well as much furniture was destroyed. Signorina Rossi's presence of mind must have averted a loss of many thousands of pounds.

Acting the Courageous Part.

A woman who withheld her name was thanked by the West London magistrate for helping the police by seizing a whistle and blowing for help. "It is frequently a woman who acts the courageous part," said Mr. Barker, the prosecuting solicitor. The man with whom the police were engaged was said to have been a champion boxer in the Army.

Women Councillors in Denmark.

One of the women elected to the Copenhagen Municipal Council is Mrs. Hoff, a surgeon by profession, who has learned in her professional career how the health of children is undermined for life by poverty. She has a plan for the improvement of the upbringing of poor children. Another, Mrs. Salicath, is matron of a home for women and babies, and believes in practical philanthropy as a remedy for social ills. Miss Crone, a third successful candidate, is a Socialist politically and a typist by calling, and says that she has been elected because she was in the closest agreement with the programme of her party. Of the seven women elected three are Conservatives, two Socialists, and two Radicals.

Swiss Women in Council.

A correspondent in Geneva sends us a report of a meeting held there recently, under the auspices of *l'Association pour le Suffrage Féminin*, when the Vice-President of the Association, M. de Morcier, presided, and Dr. Marc Dufour, of Lausanne, lectured on "Justice and the Rights of Women." The hall was lent by the Department of Public Instruction. There was a large audience, and the lecture was evidently a most interesting one. In many of the Swiss-German Cantons women's rights are nearly equal to men's, and in Vaud women have the right to vote in all matters concerning the church.

Women Pastors.

The Rev. P. T. Wells, secretary of the Congregational Union of England and Wales, moved a recommendation at a meeting on March 16 that the Settlements and Removal Committee should consider jointly, and report on the advisability of admitting women pastors into the recognised ministry of the Congregational Union of England and Wales under the conditions applicable to men. The resolution was unanimously adopted.

Women Dentists.

A correspondent who read our note on women as dentists writes:—"You were commenting on dentistry as an occupation for women and on the small number of women who have taken advantage of this particular opening. It is evident that opportunities exist, of which women have not yet availed themselves, and an instance in point has just come under my notice. I have been employing one of the very few women dentists in practice in London. She found it necessary to apologise to me for the sex of her assistant, saying, 'I am sorry I cannot introduce you to a female assistant, but there are no qualified women to be had.' Here is the opening, and women are wanted."

Miss N. Adler is to be one of the candidates for Central Hackney at the next London County Council election. Miss Adler is well known in connection with the L.C.C. Trade Schools.

Mrs. Tamplin has been admitted an honorary member of the Yarmouth troop of the Legion of Frontiersmen in recognition of the interest she has shown in the troop.

LADY GERALDINE'S SPEECH.

(A Comedietta.)

By BEATRICE HARRADEN.

(DRAMATIC AND ALL OTHER RIGHTS RESERVED.)

CHARACTERS.

DR. ALICE ROMNEY ... A Lady Doctor.
LADY GERALDINE BOLEYN ... Dr. Alice Romney's School Friend.
MISS GERTRUDE SILBERTHWAITE An Eminent Artist.
MISS NORA BAILLIE ... A Professor of Literature
MISS HILDA CROWNSHIELD ... A Famous Pianist.
MISS NELLIE GRANT ... A Typist and Short-hand Writer.
JANE ... A Maid.

SCENE: Dr. Alice Romney's Drawing-room in Nottingham Place. It is her fortnightly Suffrage At-Home day. She is seated at her writing desk near her window. She is of middle stature, and has a strong, capable face.

(Enter maid with card.)

MAID: A lady asks specially to see you. I said you were engaged until 3 o'clock. But she insisted.

DR. ALICE (looking at card and smiling): Show her in, Jane.

(Enter hurriedly, shown in by maid, the Lady Geraldine Boleyn.)

LADY G.: Oh, my dear, how good of you to see me. I hope I am not interrupting any operation. Not that I suppose you do perform operations in drawing-rooms! But I had to see you instantly, whatever you were doing. I've dashed up purposely from Eastbourne. The fact is, Alice, I've got myself into a most awful hole. You'll help me out, won't you? You always have helped me out of my difficulties. Nothing more than you ought to have done considering how I used to come to your rescue over your French compositions in the dear old Cheltenham College days. My word, you were bad at French, weren't you?

DR. ALICE (nodding): Yes. And I'm not much better now. Languages were always a trial to me. I used to think you were a perfect wonder over them.

LADY G.: So I was. So I am still. Don't let there be any mistake about that! Well now, to business. As I told you, I've got myself into a most fearful scrape. The worst in my life—absolutely the worst.

DR. ALICE (reproachfully): Geraldine, Geraldine, what on earth have you been up to? Are you never going to learn discretion?

LADY G.: Apparently never. There's no doubt that I have committed a terrible indiscretion. I've compromised myself with—well, I hardly like to tell you—with the Women's National Anti-Suffrage League.

DR. ALICE (brightening up): Is that all?

LADY G.: Isn't it enough, in all conscience? I'm at my wits' end. I haven't slept for nights, for years. Look how drawn my face is. If I'm not careful I shall begin to look clever. Yes, I've got into the toils of the National Anti-Suffrage League. I've been made into a

president or vice-president, or honorary secretary, or supporter, or something of the sort, and I have to take the chair at a large meeting at the Imperial Hall next week and make a speech, and use all the anti-suffrage arguments on this wretched sheet of paper—oh, where is it? (Looking for it in her muff and satchel.) Ah, here it is—it's like a nightmare to me. Every time I try to look at it, all the letters seem to chase each other off the paper, and there's only a blank left—like my brain. If you won't help me, I shall perish. I know I shall.

DR. ALICE: But my dear Geraldine, I'm a Suffragist, a Suffragette, a militant. You've come to the wrong person.

LADY G. (coaxingly): I've come to my old school chum. As if being a Suffragist or an Anti-Suffragist could make any difference to that eternal fact.

DR. ALICE (laughing): No, you're right! Well, what do you want me to do?

LADY G.: I want you to write my speech for me, and coach me up in it. There! Don't look so disagreeable. You're so handsome when you're pleasant. And so hideous when you're cross. Ah, that's better. Now, here are some of the arguments. As I told you, I tried to glance at them, but failed. So I haven't really gone into details. I haven't really gone into the matter at all, between you and me. But (suddenly recollecting herself) I felt strongly, on general lines, that it was impossible for me to take the responsibility of being in favour of Woman's Suffrage.

DR. ALICE: How well you roll those words out. Someone has made you learn that sentence by heart. (Repeats it.) "But I felt strongly, on general lines, that it was impossible for me to take the responsibility of being in favour of Woman's Suffrage." I must say I wonder you dare take the still greater responsibility of being against it.

LADY G. (waving her hand in dismissal of Dr. Alice's remark.): Come now, Alice. Do begin. We're wasting time. Allow me to conduct you to your desk. Here's paper. And here's your stylo. And here am I waiting on you as usual. Oh, you can make as much fun of me as you like, and lecture me as much as you like. I was always good-tempered, wasn't I? I don't mind what you say to me, so long as you help me with my speech.

DR. ALICE: Why don't you go and get an Anti-Suffragist friend to do this for you?

LADY G.: My dear girl, don't be ridiculous. With a few notable and unreachable exceptions, all the Anti-Suffragists have my sort of brains. How can we possibly help each other? Do begin. I'm losing patience with you.

DR. ALICE: But you have heaps of splendid men amongst you. Go to them.

LADY G.: Certainly not! It's one thing to sing small about your sex, but quite another thing to sing small about yourself—except to a dear old school chum who used to be a regular old brick, but who evidently isn't any longer (plaintively). I never dreamed that you

would fail me. What on earth shall I do? I shall make an awful fiasco, and disgrace myself and my Cause, and it will be your fault. You wouldn't wish to see me humiliated, would you? And surely you wouldn't wish my Cause to be disgraced. You've always said Causes saved one. Those have been your very words, Alice. Causes saved one, it did not matter what they were.

DR. ALICE (*laughing*): Nothing could ever save you. You're spoilt through and through. Here, give me the precious arguments. Sit down by the fire, and don't chatter for a minute or two, and I'll see what I can do for you.

LADY G. (*taking up her skirt and dancing round a little*): A—ha! I knew she would come round. These grim people are always the easiest to deal with. Be sure and write clearly, dear. I never could read your handwriting.

(*She dances into a chair and sits primly up, twiddling her fingers.*)

(*A pause.*)

DR. ALICE: I think you might begin in this way: "Ladies and gentlemen, I am here to-night to explain to you some of the weighty reasons which have decided me, after much anxious thought and study, to become a determined opponent of Woman's Suffrage."

LADY G.: Excellent! Sounds as if I'd studied the question for untold centuries, doesn't it?

DR. ALICE: Then I think you'd better touch at once on the "unwomanliness" of the whole movement, and the danger to the home. And you might enlarge on the "harem" theme.

LADY G.: The harem theme? What's that? I don't remember that on the list. Not that I remember anything.

DR. ALICE: It is not called that. It's called "The immense indirect influence now possessed by women." To me, personally, a most degrading influence. After that, you might beat the Imperial Drum.

LADY G.: The Imperial ———

(*The door opens. ENTER, unannounced, MISS GERTRUDE SILBERTHWAITE, an eminent artist. She is charmingly dressed, and has an engaging personality.*)

SILBER: Ah, busy, I see, Dr. Alice. I'm rather early. Shall I go away and come back in half-an-hour or so?

DR. ALICE: No, no. Sit down by the fire with my friend—an old school friend. I'm throwing together a speech for her. She's a new hand. I don't mind you talking as long as you don't talk to me.

(*LADY GERALDINE and GERTRUDE SILBERTHWAITE, who have already greeted, settle down together.*)

SILBER: Dr. Alice has a most enviable gift of concentration. She can study the most abstruse subject under any conditions whatsoever. So she is helping you with your first speech? Well, you couldn't have anyone better to help you. She's so splendid at arranging the arguments in their most forceful fashion. Shall you be nervous?

LADY G. (*uneasily*): Yes.

SILBER: Ah well, we all have to go through that. But it's worth while for the sake of the Cause, isn't it?

LADY G. (*doubtfully*): Yes.

SILBER: I'm just painting Dr. Alice's portrait. A difficult face. So handsome when she's pleasant! And so ugly when she's disagreeable!

LADY G. (*delighted*): That's exactly what I say. My very words a few minutes ago! Then you are an artist, a portrait painter? May I ask your name? I'm so interested in pictures.

SILBER: Silberthwaite.

LADY G. (*enraptured*): Gertrude Silberthwaite! You don't mean it. I am proud and delighted to see you. I've always wanted to meet you. But one never comes across you anywhere. I always heard you were a recluse.

SILBER (*smiling*): I'm not by nature a society-bird. And moreover I haven't much spare time—none in fact. But the Suffrage Movement has brought all us professional women out of our libraries and studios and all our other hiding places. We had to take our share in it, or else be ashamed of ourselves. I really do think it is a wonderful movement, don't you? And quite apart from anything to do with the vote itself, it is so splendid coming in intimate contact with a lot of fine women all following different professions or businesses. That's one of our advantages over the Anti-Suffragists, isn't it? They have no means of understanding personally the inner meaning of the whole Movement. I'm sorry for them, aren't you?

LADY G. (*fervently*): Yes, for some of them.

SILBER: Do you know I'm planning to paint a Suffrage Picture for next year's Academy, a group of representative Suffragist Women. Ellen Terry for the Drama, Mrs. Garrett Anderson for Medicine, Mrs. Ayrton for Science, Miss Elizabeth Robins for Literature, Christabel Pankhurst for Politics, and——

(*Enter MISS NORA BAILLIE, a Professor of Literature and a brilliant lecturer. She is particularly fresh-looking, and has a fine enthusiastic face, with eyes far apart.*)

BAILLIE (*gaily*): What, Dr. Alice, busy, making out prescriptions? Ah no, I see you haven't the prescription look on your face! A letter to the Prime Minister perhaps! A love letter to the Home Secretary! A valentine to the Governor of Holloway! Who can tell? Anything may happen in these days.

SILBER (*laughing and beckoning to Baillie*): Don't talk to her, Miss Baillie, she's concocting a speech. Come and talk to us instead. You do look in splendid form this afternoon. What have you been doing?

BAILLIE: I've just given the best Chaucer lecture I've ever given in my life. And the class was magnificent. Heavens, what a difference it makes when you know you have your class with you!

LADY G.: Chaucer! How interesting! I haven't heard his name mentioned since I was at school. Do tell me something about him!

BAILLIE (*quoting with animation*): *

"His stature was not very tall.

Leane he was, his legs were small

Hosed within a stock of red.

A buttoned bonnet on his head,

His beard was white, trimmed round.

His countenance blithe and merry found."

I wonder whether Chaucer would have conceded us the vote. I have my doubts. But I have no doubt about Shakespeare. None. I can't conceive it possible that he who gave us Portia, Hermione, Cordelia, Rosalind,

* 1592. Unknown. Greene's Vision.

Beatrice, Imogen, and all his other splendid women of brain, education and initiative, would have withheld us grudgingly the rights of full citizenship. I intend to die in the belief that he would have been on our side. I'm sure he's on the platform at all Suffrage Meetings calling out inaudibly: "Votes for Women!" (*Turning to LADY GERALDINE*). Don't you agree with me?

LADY G. (*shyly*): I've never thought of it.

SILBER: Nor have I. But I daresay she's right.

BAILLIE: Of course I'm right! What a pity the Prime Minister hasn't Shakespeare's mind! There's no denying he hasn't, is there? (*To LADY GERALDINE*).

LADY G. (*pensively*): I suppose there isn't.

SILBER (*gaily*): You appear to be in some doubt.

LADY G. (*laughing*): Oh no, not about that! But I was just wondering—

(*Enter Miss HILDA CROWNINSHIELD, a famous pianist.*)

SILBER: Ah, here's Hilda Crowninshield.

CROWN. (*greeting them all*): Here I am. Just back from a concert at Manchester. Good afternoon, Dr. Alice. Busy, I see. (*Turning to SILBERTHWAITE*). What is she doing? Shall I disturb her if I try the piano.

BAILLIE: Oh! dear no. She's only writing a speech. As long as you don't talk to her, you may introduce the whole of the Queen's Hall Orchestra into this room, and she won't turn a hair.

CROWN.: Good. I want to run through the two little Brahms pieces I promised to play this afternoon. If the piano is very much out of tune, and there are more than five or six notes broken, I shall have to choose some other things, that's all!

(*She sits down at the piano. LADY GERALDINE, who has been exceedingly stirred by her arrival, goes up to her.*)

LADY G. (*excitedly*): Miss Crowninshield, I must speak to you. I cannot tell you what your playing means to me. I'd rather hear you than anyone in the world! I don't know what you do to me. When I hear you play, I feel myself capable of everything great and good.

CROWN. (*greatly pleased, and touching her gently on the hand*): Thank you. Then you must be passionately fond of music?

LADY G.: Passionately! It is the language I understand.

CROWN. (*beginning to touch the notes*): Ah, not so bad! And I declare Dr. Alice has had it tuned! I never expected such luck. Yes, I can play one or two of Brahms's Intermezzi, and perhaps a Chopin Waltz. Perhaps even a bit of Grieg. (*She addresses herself to LADY G.*) Yes?

LADY G. (*delighted*): Yes, yes! How good of you to come and play at Dr. Alice's.

CROWN.: Good? Why, I love playing to my Suffrage comrades. I'd do anything for them! Play the trombone, if they wanted it fearfully!

(*She begins Brahms's First Intermezzo. After she has been playing for a little while, enter NELLIE GRANT, a typist and shorthand-writer. She carries, slung over her shoulder, a bag with one remaining copy of VOTES FOR WOMEN. She looks extremely fatigued. HILDA CROWNINSHIELD glances up and leaves off playing and joins the others.*)

CROWN.: Why, my dear child, you look worn out.

Thoroughly at the end of yourself. Let's ring for tea for her immediately. (*They ring for tea.*)

NELLIE G.: Tired, but very proud, Miss CROWNINSHIELD. I've had a most successful day. Sold all my VOTES FOR WOMEN except one solitary copy, and had some useful little talks with lots of people. One man bought six copies. He said he had been an Anti until yesterday, when he went to an Anti meeting and that converted him! (*Laughter.*)

CROWN.: Bravo. (*Runs to the piano and plays a few bars of the waltz from "The Merry Widow." They laugh and clap.*)

BAILLIE: I really do think the Antis are our best friends.

LADY G.: Why? I don't quite understand. I should have thought they were very formidable foes.

SILBER.: Oh! dear no. You needn't have any fears about that. You see, with a few exceptions, they can't speak—they haven't had the practice—they haven't learnt how to hold an audience.

LADY G.: But when they have learnt, what then?

BAILLIE: Even then they can't be formidable. Remember, for your comfort, that they haven't got an irresistible champion as we have.

LADY G. (*entirely mystified*): An irresistible champion?

CROWN.: She means the Spirit of the Age.

LADY G. (*smiling blankly*): The Spirit of the Age?

BAILLIE: And lots of them haven't "gone into it"! I know they haven't. One of them brought me the Anti-Suffrage Petition to sign, and told me quite frankly, when I advanced some arguments in favour of Woman's Suffrage, that she had not "gone into it," but that she wanted to get as many signatures as quickly as possible for that petition which was sent in yesterday, you know—seven miles long or seven feet high—I forget which! They may get signatures—whole villages of signatures—but they can't really hope to influence people if they haven't taken the trouble to influence themselves, can they?

LADY G. (*uncomfortably*): No.

SILBER.: Don't give them one anxious thought. They'll soon "fold their tents, like the Arabs, and as silently steal away"!

CROWN. (*who is still at piano, improvises and sings softly*):

"The night shall be filled with music, and the cares which beset the day,

Shall fold their tents, like the Arabs, and as silently steal away."

(*Tea is brought in.*)

LADY G. (*who has been slowly gathering herself together for a declaration of faith*): I have something to tell you all. You've been taking it for granted that I'm a Suffragist. Well, I'm not. I'm an Anti-Suffragist.

SILBER: Great heavens! How delightful! I've been longing to meet one face to face. No one brought me the Anti-Suffrage petition.

BAILLIE: Do tell us your name. Who are you?

LADY G.: Geraldine Boleyn.

BAILLIE (*turning to the others*): Why, of course! Lady Geraldine Boleyn. She's going to take the chair on the 15th at the Imperial Hall. Surely I'm not mistaken.

LADY G. (*frankly*): Yes, that's quite right. And as I couldn't manage my speech, I came to my old school friend in my distress. I know it sounds absurd, but it's true.

DR. ALICE (*looking up for the first time from her desk*): Idiot! Why did you give yourself away? I could shake you.

LADY G.: Alice, I simply couldn't have held out for a moment longer. I couldn't have gone on pretending by my silence that I was one of them.

DR. ALICE (*getting up from her desk, and turning fiercely to her comrades*): You mustn't betray her. I wouldn't have her betrayed for worlds. She's very dear to me. She has always been wonderfully good to me, though she has been a great nuisance at times and has given me a lot of trouble, and has always made the most unreasonable demands on me—and—well—I've liked it. She's my oldest and dearest school friend, and we plotted all sorts of mischief together in the happy old days. And if that isn't a sacred bond, then nothing is. Nearly all the pleasures I had in my holidays came through her—I should never have known all the sweet pleasures of the country but for her—joys which abide with one for ever, when other things have passed out of one's life. I can't and won't have her humiliated. If I hadn't helped her over her speech she would have probably made herself ridiculous—and I couldn't have stood that—I had to help her—and I shall always have to help her—if she becomes an anarchist and takes the chair at an anarchist meeting I shall have to write her speech for that too. I . . . (*She breaks off suddenly.*) Promise me you won't give her away.

ALL FOUR TOGETHER: Of course. Our word of honour.

(*They all stretch out their hands to Lady Geraldine, and make a charming group round her.*)

BAILLIE (*gaily*): There's nothing, however, in our oath to prevent us from laughing a little, is there? Oh, and to think I shan't be able to go and heckle you! I can't heckle Dr. Alice's old school friend. And I'd bought a ticket surreptitiously and with the utmost difficulty!

SILBER: As I told you, I've never seen a real Anti-Suffragist before. Do let me paint your portrait! Side face would be best, I think. I'm not quite sure, though. No, it must be full face. Yes, full face.

NELLIE G.: Do tell me if it's true that there's going to be a "No Votes for Women" paper, with a Union Jack on the cover. I shall be jealous.

CROWN. (*taking LADY GERALDINE'S arm*): Don't you dare tease her any more! Votes or no votes, she and I speak the same language, don't we?

DR. ALICE: Well, now for the speech, Geraldine. I've quite enjoyed this little job. I'm rather pleased with it. I think I've brought in all the points. Degradation of womanhood. Degradation and disintegration of entire Empire. Dominant female vote in all matters concerning the Army and Navy, our relations with foreign Powers, with our Colonies, and with India. Physical force argument. Women have to safeguard the past and the future, and it is the men's work to look after the present. I don't myself know what that means, but it sounds well. Absolute denial that the vote will improve the economic position of women—indirect influence of women quite sufficient. Emphatic, nay passionate, insistence on your own brainlessness—that is very important. A few passing allusions to us Suffragists as obscure vulgarians. I think you might almost call us uneducated. Yes, uneducated and obscure vulgarians. That also sounds well. And as there's so little to say it must sound well my dear girl,

or else the cause perishes. Ah, yes. And you mustn't forget to refer to yourselves as "so-called traitresses to the sex, so-called survivals of the Dark Ages," because that will elicit respectful sympathy. And be sure and mention that you have joined the Territorial Nursing Corps. I forget its name, but that's near enough. Have you joined it, by the way?

LADY G. (*who is standing all this splendidly*): No.

DR. ALICE: Then do so at once, because that's a piece of subtle cleverness. You disclaim physical force, and yet are preparing indirectly to defend your country. There now, haven't I been a brick? Haven't I wiped out for ever the obligation of those French compositions?

LADY G. (*with spirit but good temper*): No, that obligation could never be wiped out. And besides, this service doesn't count. Do you know what I'm going to do with this speech? Look.

(*She throws it into the fire.*)

DR. ALICE: Well, of all the ungrateful, aristocratic little wretches—

LADY G. (*with increased spirit and charm, turning to the others*): Do you know what I'm going to do next? I'm going home to think.

DR. ALICE: Impossible! You've never done such a thing in your life!

BAILLIE: Shame, Dr. Alice! It's never too late to sin—I mean to think!

LADY G. (*smiling at her*): I should love to come to one of your lectures. May I?

BAILLIE: Of course you may.

LADY G. (*to GERTRUDE SILBERTHWAIT*): And will you really paint my portrait?

SILBER: Of course I will. Full face. Full face.

LADY G. (*to HILDA CROWNINSHIELD*): The same language, votes or no votes?

CROWN.: Yes, Yes.

LADY G. (*to NELLIE GRANT*): Will you let me have your last remaining copy of your paper?

NELLIE G. (*delighted*): Here it is, Lady Geraldine—a present from us all!

LADY G.: Thank you. Good-bye—all of you. Good-bye!

(*She goes to the door. When she has reached it, she turns round to Dr. Alice. There is a roguish look on her face.*)

LADY G.: Alice, how long do mumps take?

DR. ALICE: Oh, about two or three weeks.

LADY G.: Very infectious, aren't they?

DR. ALICE: Highly.

LADY G.: I believe I've got them already! Afraid I shan't be able to take that Chair! Good-bye!

(*She goes out.*) (*They look after her for a moment.*)

DR. ALICE (*fiercely*): Mind, if you betray my school chum, I'll never speak to you again.

NELLIE G.: Betray one of our own, Dr. Alice! For she is one of our own already. Before many weeks are passed she'll be selling VOTES FOR WOMEN in a blinding snowstorm in the merry month of May!

BAILLIE (*raising her tea-cup*): Her health!
(*They drink her health.*)

CURTAIN.

DINNER TO THE PRISONERS.

The twenty-six women released from Holloway, after their month's imprisonment, on Wednesday in last week were entertained in the evening at a dinner at the Inns of Court Hotel.

Every available seat had been sold a long time ahead, and the large restaurant was crowded, 400 people being present, who gave the prisoners a most enthusiastic reception. The hall was decorated in the purple, white, and green, and a number of people staying in the hotel gathered round in the balcony and the windows overlooking the restaurant and listened to the speeches. It is not easy to convey an impression of the enthusiasm of the scene. Each of the prisoners on rising was greeted with cries of "Bravo!" from men and women, who stood on their chairs and waved and cheered enthusiastically.

Miss Christabel Pankhurst occupied the chair and gave the prisoners a very hearty welcome back to active service. She was glad to say that public feeling as to these women being political offenders was growing stronger every day, and she related how a man in the crowd that morning had said, "Yes, when Jemison was in prison he had a *suit* (sic) of rooms"—(laughter)—"and duck and 'en for breakfast." The remark was perhaps only a straw, but it showed which way the wind blew. The Suffragettes' complaint was in having to go to Holloway at all. (Hear, hear.) They thought they ought to have the vote instead, and she was sure they would have the country with them in saying that it was a disgrace to the country, and above all to the Government, that women should have to make the sacrifice that these women had made. The enthusiasm with which they had been received that night showed more eloquently than words what the members and leaders of the W.S.P.U. felt towards these women—their thanks, gratitude, and pride—(hear, hear)—and their determination to live up to the standard their friends had set. Miss Pankhurst then called upon each of the released prisoners, in alphabetical order, for a brief speech, and it was noticeable that in every case they expressed themselves as ten times more enthusiastic in the cause than when they went to prison.

Miss Ainsworth described the prison system as "perfectly rotten." She had been visited in Holloway by the member for Wandsworth (in whose division she lived), Sir Henry Kimber, who had told her that she could go out at any moment, and that she was "putting the cause back." She replied that, so far from hindering the cause, the very fact that he had taken the trouble to visit her in prison was a proof that the cause was going forward. A prisoner had said to her before she left, "You do not know the difference it makes to us, the Suffragettes being here. God bless you."

Miss Mary Allen, of Bristol, said that she had admired women before she joined the W.S.P.U., but, having been to Holloway, she felt that no one knew their capacity for combining and standing up for one another. She had been unfairly punished for some breach of discipline, and all the women had appealed to the governor on her behalf, and had succeeded in getting her two days' solitary confinement reduced to one.

Mrs. Frank Corbett said it was useless for the Home Secretary to say that he had no power to remove prisoners from the second division to the first division; he had the power of advising the magistrate. She added a special plea that the clergy should support the women's cause on the ground that it was for the uplifting of the human race.

Miss Una Dugdale said that if before she had gone into Holloway liberty was for her spelt in letters of gold, it was now spelt in letters of living fire. She would hold all her life in reverence those women who first went to prison, and who had borne the brunt of the scoffs and jeers. The women had got to conquer, and they were going to conquer. She wanted to give her tribute to her fellow-prisoners who, though often ill and crushed (for in Holloway they did all possible to crush you), had revived her with their courage. She only wished that those men who considered women physically and intellectually unfit to have a vote could go for a month to Holloway. (Hear, hear.) The movement was like a cloud rising out of the sea, no larger than a woman's hand to begin with, but growing until there came a mighty flood, which would sweep away ignorance and prejudice for ever. Let Mr. Asquith take heed. ("Coward, coward.") Her advice to him was to follow Noah, and build an ark. He knew the planks, Votes for Women; but if he despised them they might be taken by another party.

Miss Carwin stated that she wrote "Glorious Christabel" on every prison spoon that came in her way.

Mrs. Caprina Fahey said that her stay in Holloway had increased her enthusiasm tenfold. She was now a double-dyed Suffragette. She had taken care to tell each of the visiting magistrates that fact,

They all owed the deepest gratitude to the leaders of this movement, for women had begun to realise what it was to be really womanly, and that was a splendid power.

Miss Leslie Lawless brought the following message from Mrs. Pethick Lawrence:—

My thoughts are with you, and will be with you at this time of rejoicing. I have never been so glad and proud of our great movement as I am to-day. I have esteemed it a most high honour to be in prison with those whose release now brings them back to the fighting ranks again. Let the war of freedom go on with never-abating ardour and ever-increasing vigour. Pursue the enemy into his own ground, and press him hard, but remember that concentration and energy and rapidity of action are the double secrets of success. There must not be a moment's peace for the Government until they pay to women the debt, so long overdue, of their political emancipation.

This message was written by Mrs. Lawrence on her slate, and Miss Lawless learnt it by heart, as she was not allowed to write it down and bring out a copy with her.

Lady Constance Lytton.

Lady Constance Lytton said a message had reached her in Holloway: "A speech will be expected of you." Her difficulty was that her memory was untrustworthy, and she had made great efforts to obtain paper and pencil with which to write down the points she wished to make. The only letter she had been allowed to keep was a business letter relating to shares, for which she did not particularly wish. Its envelope was, however, the only possible material on which to write, although she had asked both the governor and the deputy-governor to allow her even to take out with her her prison slate. Apparently something like an Act of Parliament would have been required for this! On the blank part of the envelope she had been able to make some rough notes in "red ink"—namely, blood which she had drawn from her own flesh. The first thing she wanted to say was, "How are you?" and "How is it with the cause?" She had had the immense privilege of being with their beloved treasure, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, from the beginning. That had been a most tremendous honour, of which she felt herself quite unworthy. The unconscious sunshine which Mrs. Pethick Lawrence shed upon everybody and every thing was wonderful, and the influence of this sunshine on her fellow-prisoners was like a perpetual miracle carried out before their eyes. There had been moments when it had been extremely bitter not to be able to speak, but to be obliged to stand by and witness treatment of Mrs. Lawrence on certain occasions against which she longed to rebel. ("Shame!") Describing herself as a sort of stripling in the movement, Lady Constance said that she had imagined she knew a great deal about Votes for Women before she went on that deputation of February 24. On that night, however, she had experienced several tremendous and shocking surprises. It had been thought well, in view of that absolute impartiality characteristic of the authorities, that she should not appear upon the platform with the rest of the deputation. She, therefore, occupied a place in the audience, and was more or less disguised on leaving the hall. She had always imagined that a certain kind of treatment of women of which she had heard in other countries was an absolute impossibility in England; her eyes had, however, been roughly opened, and she would take good care on the next similar occasion that some members of the Government should have a private invitation to see with their own eyes what took place. She had been desperately ashamed of the Government, which called itself Liberal, and which allowed such things to go on, amounting to nothing short of a national disgrace. At Bow Street, again, she felt how absolutely imbecile and ludicrous the whole thing was. Their clothes were to be stripped from them, and practically they were to be searched and to have everything they valued taken from them. One thing, however, no one could take from her, and that was the glorious moment when Christabel Pankhurst came up to her and said something—she hardly realised what—perhaps it was "Thank you" or "Well done"—something so glamorous and beautiful that the thought of it remained with her throughout her imprisonment. Those words had simply sent a radiance through the whole place.

Her difficulty had been to prevent herself being treated with unnecessary and unwarrantable privilege. As an instance of this, one night when a poor woman was brought into the cell below hers she heard scuffling and unusual noise, and then a terrible voice rang through the corridors, "Let me out; let me out," while the rattling of the gates in front of the poor woman's cell shook the whole place. This she understood was one of those sad cases of the Daisy Lord type.* Everyone would remember how last summer Mr. Herbert Gladstone had written to the papers scornfully telling the public how ignorant it was about the law in

* Lady Constance Lytton informs us that she has since received a letter from Mr. Gladstone stating that the woman from whom the cries proceeded could not possibly have been the woman who had killed her child, as this woman was in another part of the prison at that time.

such cases as that, how the passing of the death sentence was a matter of form and not intended to be carried out. She wished the Home Secretary could have heard those cries.

She wished that the Home Secretary could have been in her cell that night. She wished that every member of any Government that ever came into power, and every legislator, could have heard that woman's voice. It was a thing not easily forgotten, and she would like to ask why, if it was a matter of form to pass the death sentence in such cases, this was not explained to the person most directly concerned. If it was a sort of play-acting, was it not one of those things which could easily be altered? She would have a placard put up in every police-court explaining that any prisoner who wished was entitled to have legal advice. At such a time one was so crushed and oppressed that one hardly realised one's rights in this matter. Even she had felt the crushing influence of the machinery of the law, and in many cases it must be very much worse than in her own. Then, again, she thought that an officer was wanted at the prison to meet the prisoners on their arrival, and to hear their side of the story. It would transform the place in a week if there were someone there to trust them and believe their word. Lady Constance related how once, when spending a year in London (she was a "country bumpkin" herself, and hated town), the thing that had comforted her most had been the voice of an old man crying in back streets, "Here's chickweed and groundsel and reemary for sweet singing birds." That old man knew that there were songsters, glorious vanquishers of the air, shut up in tiny cages in those streets, and he wanted to remind the birds of what they could be at their best. That was what was wanted in Holloway—to remind women of what they could be, and not perpetually to tell them that they were damned. Her advice to the Government, if they wished to suppress the women's ardour in this agitation, was not to send them to Holloway. Holloway was the place where one took a University degree in the women's movement. She went in as she imagined a hot Suffragette, but what she was then was an absolutely pale shadow of what she was now she had come out.

Another little anecdote would interest her hearers. Being in the infirmary, she had not attended the ordinary chapel, but a kind of family prayers with the third-class prisoners, of which a great part consisted of an address. On one occasion the address dealt with the Temptation in the Wilderness, and the Chaplain referred to the sin of stealing food when one was hungry. A poor old woman, her face lined with sorrow and her hands gnarled with work, stood up, the tears running down her cheeks, and said, "O sir, you are so hard on us." The poor old thing was hustled away by the wardresses as if she were not fit for the company of the other prisoners. It had taken her three days to recover from the impression made by this incident.

In spite of everything that was saddening, however, she had found herself constantly giving thanks for little things. First, there was that marvellous spirit of kindness which appears even through a coat of mail, and even through a system of tyranny and oppression. Then, again, she felt all the time what a tremendous debt of gratitude women owed to those two heroic and magnificent women who first went to prison for the cause of political freedom. (Prolonged cheers.)

Mrs. Lamartine Yates said she had made up her mind to join the deputation within forty-eight hours. Nothing had been further from her thoughts, but she attended a meeting addressed by Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, and came away feeling that if only certain difficulties could be overcome it was her duty to go to the Prime Minister on the 24th. She described the effect of the solitary confinement as "mental chloroform." Being a busy woman, with many public duties and little leisure, she had imagined that during her stay in Holloway she would have a splendid opportunity for thought. The effect of the atmosphere, however, made that impossible. The walls seemed to close round upon one, and the only refuge was to read hard. Very amusingly Mrs. Yates described how the broad arrow was scattered all over the prison precincts, and how even the snow in the exercise yard was dotted with broad arrows made by the feet of the pigeons. She had puzzled over the letters "P. P." on the prison tins, and decided that they stood for Pethick-Lawrence and Pankhurst, with the sign of liberty—the broad arrow—between. She described the Suffragettes as the "Pankhurst Territorials," who were increasing with such rapidity that "Haldane's Territorials" would be nowhere.

Miss Townsend said that some prisoners whom they had to leave at Pentonville on their way to Holloway had wished them good luck. They told this to the police, who said, "They would wish good luck to your pockets if they could get hold of them." It was really the Liberal Government who were the robbers. (Cheers and hear, hear.) She was a soldier's daughter, and she was ready to fight for her political liberty.

The rest of the prisoners made short but vigorous speeches, and without exception expressed themselves as infinitely more determined to win the vote from the Liberal Government than they were before they went to Holloway.

THE WOMAN'S EXHIBITION.

Prince's Skating Rink, May 13-26, 1909.

Communications to be addressed: Exhibition Secretary,
W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, W.C.

So generous has been the response to the call to work in connection with the Exhibition that the Exhibition Committee now feel they have reached a stage when it would be useful to have a report from all who are taking an active part in the preparations—individuals, organisers, secretaries of local unions, and others—as to how they are progressing and in what particular directions they are intending to specialise. This would give the Committee a sort of bird's-eye view of what is going on all over the country, and would enable them to make their preparations accordingly. Very little time now remains between this and May 13, and, with Easter Holidays intervening, it is well to take stock before going on.

Another way in which readers of VOTES FOR WOMEN can render most valuable help to the Committee is in writing to the Secretary some little account of their experience in getting up bazaars. There are many technical points to be considered, and the Committee would be glad to compare the practical experience of any who will write to them with their own.

Inquiries have been made as to what will become of the goods supplied for the stalls, supposing they are not all sold during the fortnight the Exhibition is open. In the event of articles being left unsold it is proposed to hold further sales, probably in the provinces, and if this plan is carried out, the interest will be further added to by the exhibition of photographs collected by the Y.H.B., illustrating various phases of the movement and forming a unique record of the past few months' activities.

Entertainments.

Several very generous offers, already recorded in this series of articles, have been made for the entertainment of visitors to the Prince's Skating Rink. There remain, however, several vacancies for bands and other musical entertainments, and the Secretary will be glad to hear from anyone who will volunteer this form of help.

Send for the Poster.

A preliminary poster is being prepared, and will be ready as soon as this week's VOTES FOR WOMEN is in the hands of readers. The poster, which is 40 ins. by 30 ins., is being printed in the colours, and will, it is hoped, be found very useful. Will all who are working for the Exhibition, or who are interested in it in any way, write for a supply of these posters in order that they may be exhibited wherever possible to make the Exhibition known? As this is a preliminary poster, it is important to get it out quickly.

Refreshment Department.

The following letter comes from the Secretaries and Managers of the refreshment department:—

As there is every likelihood that an average of 500 to 1,000 people will patronise this department every day during the Exhibition, its management entails a great deal of work and will necessitate a large call for help. Already the following ladies have generously come forward with their help:—Mrs. Macdonald, Mrs. Beaumont Thomas, Mrs. Ward Higgs, Mrs. E. Stratford Dugdale, Mrs. Willock, Mrs. Garneson, Mrs. Löwy, Mrs. Arbuthnot, Mrs. Baillie Guthrie, Mrs. Higgins, Miss Eva Mackenzie, and Miss Bleby. These ladies are guaranteeing money, sales of tea tickets, gifts of cakes and provisions, and also giving tea parties. Mrs. Löwy is besides undertaking to provide the ice for the fortnight up to an outlay of £30. Mrs. Baillie Guthrie, as announced last week, is giving American ice-cream sodas.

We want this department to be one of the chief features of attraction at the Exhibition. Special china has been made, as well as teacloths, and we are arranging to have souvenir teaspoons, all to be sold at the close of the Exhibition. A great many young members of the Union are going to act as tea girls, and are to wear pretty green dresses, with white muslin aprons and a touch of purple.

An enormous quantity of provisions will be required, and the more we have given the more money we shall be able to hand over to the Union. All gifts of country butter, cream, cakes of every description, fruit tarts, jellies, creams, cold hams, tongues, pressed beef, and green salads will be gratefully received.

Help is also wanted for the evening work, between 7 and 10.30. Tea tickets, price 1s. each, are now on sale. Please send all offers of help to the Joint Secretaries and Managers, Mrs. Frederick Edwards, 68, Lancaster Gate, and Miss Una S. Dugdale, 18, Stanhope Place, Marble Arch, W.

Contributions and Promises.

Already acknowledged:—Stalls.....	314
Edinburgh	One stall.
Lewisham	One hall.
Putney and Fulham	One-quarter.
Mrs. Donkin	One-quarter.
Money and goods to the amount of	£635 0 0
Mrs. Andrews has promised to send goods to the value of	1 10 0
Miss Cobbett	0 6 0
Mrs. Fox Edwards (L.C.U.)	2 0 0
Miss Hart	1 0 0
Miss Casey	1 10 0
Miss Larner	10 0 0
Mrs. Billingham (Lewisham)	27 12 0
Mrs. C. Moore (Putney and Fulham)	10 0 0
Mrs. Leyton (Devon and Somerset)	1 0 0
Miss Hutton	5 0 0
Mrs. Edgebow	1 0 0
Miss Agget	0 12 6
Sisters Marie and Hollis	2 10 0
Miss Howey	0 15 0
Miss Stevens	5 5 0
Miss Ingham	1 10 0
Miss Latimer (Devon and Somerset)	25 0 0
Mrs. Boase	2 10 0
Miss Baker	0 10 0
Mrs. Smith	5 5 0
Mrs. E. Wyse (Farm Produce)	0 5 0
Mrs. Newson	2 0 0
Lady Jenkinson (Sweet Stall)	1 0 0
Miss Gourlie and Friends	2 0 0
Miss Kemp-Gee	2 5 0
L.E.T.	2 0 0
Mrs. Hayes	2 0 0
Mrs. Barfield	2 0 0
Mrs. Bryant	1 0 0
Mr. Stuart Robertson	1 10 0
Mrs. Mason	1 0 0
Miss Hart	1 0 0
Mrs. Simpson	1 0 0
Miss Hale	6 0 0
Mrs. Hanson	2 0 0
Mrs. Sangwill (cheque)	5 0 0

CROYDON BYE-ELECTION.

RESULT.

Sir R. Hermon-Hodge (C)	11,989
Mr. J. E. Raphael (L)	8,041
Mr. F. Smith (Labour-Socialist)	886

Conservative majority over Liberal... 3,948

The figures at the last election were:—Rt. Hon. Hugh Oakeley Arnold Forster (Con.), 8,211; H. C. Somers Somerset (Lib.), 7,573; Sidney Stranks (Lab.), 4,007.

The great campaign of the Women's Social and Political Union at the Croydon bye-election was brought to an end on polling day, Monday last, and resulted in a magnificent victory for the women over the Government, Mr. Raphael, the Liberal candidate, being defeated by no less than 3,900 votes, as compared with the majority of one thousand by which the Conservative had been returned at the General Election.

During the whole of the previous week signs had not been wanting of the coming result. Wherever members of the W.S.P.U. had been present they had been received with enthusiastic cheers, and the electors of Croydon had shown themselves particularly ready to understand and appreciate the bye-election policy of the W.S.P.U.

Friday and Saturday, the last days of the active campaign, were well spent. The Suffragette colours were everywhere in evidence, and at all the meetings considerable interest was evoked.

The arrangements for Saturday afternoon were carried out with great success. A procession of members drove through the constituency, including the women recently released from Holloway, and also members of the deputation which subsequently went to the House of Commons on the following Tuesday.

The route was from the Clock Tower at Thornton Heath to the Empire Theatre at Croydon, and as the procession passed along the street cheers were raised again and again for the women who were fighting for their enfranchisement.

At the Empire Theatre so great was the interest that every seat was filled long before the time for the meeting, and though the theatre holds no less than 2,000 people, a further 1,500 waited outside in the hope of an overflow meeting. Inside the

hall the great banner of the Union, bearing the motto "Strong souls live like fire-hearted suns to spend their strength," attracted special attention. Prominent on the stage were the ex-prisoners, and the audience was addressed by Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Christabel Pankhurst, Miss Gawthorpe, and others, who dealt with the political situation, showing how persistently Mr. Asquith had refused to listen to the claims of women. The points of the speakers were listened to with great attention, and it was evident that with every word that was uttered the prestige of the Liberal Party was being weakened. A resolution calling for the immediate enfranchisement of duly

qualified women, and demanding that Mr. Asquith should receive the deputation on Tuesday, was carried with few dissentients. Outside the hall speeches were also made, and at the close a running fire of questions elicited ready answers from the speakers.

This meeting brought to an end the series which had been held in the constituency from the beginning of the campaign. These included large meetings in the Public Hall, Croydon; the Norbury Public Hall, the Stanley Hall, South Norwood; the St. Michael's Hall, the Public Baths, Thornton Heath; the Art Gallery, St. Augustine's Hall, the Friends' Adult School, and other public buildings, and also a very large number of outdoor meetings in every part of the constituency.

On polling day members of the Union stationed themselves outside the polling booths, and as every elector went in he was called upon to "support the women and keep the Liberal out," advice which in the great majority of cases he gladly followed.

EXTRACTS FROM THE PRESS.

"THE DAILY MAIL."

The Suffragettes made a brave show with their procession on Saturday afternoon. The latest batch of martyrs, liberated from Holloway, and the band of Lancashire women, who are determined to see Mr. Asquith to-morrow or go to prison in the attempt, assembled at The Clock, Thornton Heath, with brakes and bands and banners. Lady Constance Lytton, the most distinguished member

DISAPPEARANCE OF MR. RAPH - - L.

[A sequel to our Cartoon of last week.]



Mr. Asquith: "We have lost our recruit! And I fear the waves may drown us ere we reach the ship!"

of the Holloway batch, who says she wrote her thoughts in blood during her incarceration, did not appear. But Mrs. Pankhurst was there, and Miss Christabel Pankhurst, and Miss Mary Gawthorpe, that fiery cross from the north. The procession wended its slow way to the Empire Theatre at Croydon, their bands playing "The Marseillaise." Great crowds watched them pass. They had an entirely successful meeting in the theatre. It was packed to the roof, and there were no interruptions.

"THE TIMES."

The woman Suffragists, of course being for the most part cultured women, are above criticism as speakers in the street or anywhere else; like the strange Mr. Gray, they speak with a pleasing quietness, and invariably have attentive audiences.

"DAILY GRAPHIC." Where Women Excel.

Before leaving the spectacular elements of this contest the observer who deploras the sight of women in the very thick of the strife may yet remark with admiration upon the striking ability of the women speakers. It is a feature which has impressed Croydon audiences, even Croydon "men in the street," without distinction of party. Though the "Votes for Women" brigade has certainly no monopoly of the power, their members have, perhaps, a trick of more effective platform manner than other sections. A young man on the outskirts of a crowd interrupted an advocate of the vote with what was intended to be a crushing reduction to absurdity. "Don't you wish you were a man?" was what he called to her. Quick as a shot came the reply: "Don't you wish you were a man?" This is an example of the style that tells. The fact should be recognised by men that in sheer intellectual mastery of speech and argument the women in this contest have, on the average, excelled the men. They are more skilled in self-expression; they repeat themselves less; in all the arts and wiles of plausible speech they are superior.

"THE STANDARD." Suffragists Active.

During the afternoon the Suffragists held a great demonstration in the local music-hall, the principal attraction being Mrs. and Miss Pankhurst, and a number of women recently liberated from Holloway Prison. The hall was packed from stalls to gallery, and the various speakers were listened to with marked attentiveness. When I arrived it was impossible to obtain a seat in the house, but from a corner in the gallery, high up against the ceiling, I could just catch a glimpse of the stage. The speakers, looking none the worse for their incarceration in gaol, were flanked by an imposing orchestra. I caught only one phrase, but it was suggestive of the organisation's whole argument—"Only the great mothers have the great sons, therefore—"

"THE MORNING POST." Processions and Oratory.

Throughout the day and far into the night propagandist work was carried on yesterday (Saturday) by all parties with prodigious energy. Numerous processions and parades took place, the most imposing display being that of the ladies of the National Women's Social and Political Union, who marched with banners flying and drums beating to the Empire Palace Theatre, there to deliver impassioned speeches from the text, "Keep the Liberal out."

"MORNING ADVERTISER," March 23.

The most conspicuous feature of the election yesterday was provided by the militant Suffragettes, who paraded the town in motor-cars and wagonettes, gaily bedecked with the familiar purple, white and green, announcing that Miss Christabel Pankhurst was to address a meeting at night. The same proclamation was also made by "Sandwich Suffragettes."

"EVENING NEWS," March 29. What the Women Have Done.

A notable sign of the times is the part that women have played in this election.

When the fight started the Suffragettes attracted a few hundred women to their meeting, many of them hostile.

On Saturday afternoon they filled the Empire Theatre with an audience of about 2,000, and there was scarcely a single interruption.

This does not mean that Croydon is converted to "Votes for Women." Croydon's approval is for the cry, "Keep the Liberal out." All the same, the conspicuous part which the women of all badges have played in the contest has had its effect in familiarising the burgesses with the idea that women do, nowadays, insist on being politicians, that they are not afraid of the work it involves, and that they understand their subjects.

Women now undertake nearly every branch of committee-room work. Women canvass in the rain and engage in competitions for open-air audiences. Women draw up lists of speakers and look after the arrangements for vehicles. They borrow motor-cars from their own women friends. They carry sandwich boards, they distribute

leaflets, they roar through megaphones, and they look up all the vacant dates at all the meeting-rooms they can find.

It may not be "womanly," but it is done, and no Parliamentary candidate can afford to ignore the fact.

"CROYDON CHRONICLE" March 12.

Now about the Suffragists. They are in the fray and are to be reckoned with. They had already opened an office in Croydon—before there was any likelihood of an election—and they are making their presence felt. What with open-air meetings, chalking announcements on the pavements, distributing literature, and other methods, they have entered into the battle in earnest.

"CROYDON CHRONICLE," March 25.

Then there are the Suffragettes. They certainly lend a new colour to the campaign in Croydon. At the 1906 contest they were not to be seen. They have sprung themselves upon the country since that time, and have helped to enliven many a dull moment in our national life. Newspaper readers would have felt annoyed did they not find something about the "Votes for Women" agitation in their daily paper during the past year or so.

They are here in Croydon assisting in no small measure to make things lively. Their gay-coloured flags—purple, white, and green—fly from motor-cars as they flit about the town visiting this and that open space and seeking to address the crowds, often provoking the greatest merriment by their ready responses to interrupters.

They do not mind adopting manly efforts. Some parade the streets with sandwich boards and others rush about scrawling with chalk on the pavements announcements of meetings and telling the electors for whom they should vote. They are not moved by the taunts and jeers to which they are subjected. But then they are feminine, not masculine.

"MANCHESTER GUARDIAN," March 26. (London Letter.)

The Sentences on Suffragists.

A good deal of attention is being directed to the disparity in the sentences of imprisonment passed upon Mrs. Despard and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence. Both were arrested while seeking to make their way into the House of Commons with petitions. Both were ring-leaders in these enterprises, both were convicted of the same offence, and in both cases there had been a previous conviction; yet Mrs. Despard was sentenced to one month's imprisonment and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence to two. No doubt the organisation with which Mrs. Pethick Lawrence is connected is by much the more active and formidable, and no doubt also its demonstrations, being on a larger scale, give more trouble; but these seem hardly adequate grounds on which to inflict a double sentence on one of two individuals who, as individuals, committed precisely the same offence. That, at least, is a feeling widely entertained among all ranks of suffragists, and it is thought that Mr. Gladstone, if approached on the subject, might very properly remit a portion of the heavier sentence. Should he do so he would relieve a somewhat acute sense of injustice.

"HEREFORD TIMES," March 27.

From the first militant act, so-called, three years ago, up to this hour, we have not only recognised the splendid courage and devotion of these women, but have admitted that their methods (though they do not always approve themselves to mere men) have advanced the cause further and quicker than the combined efforts of the last three centuries.

"MANCHESTER COURIER," March 25.

When the history of the agitation in Great Britain comes to be written the chapter dealing with the imprisonment of delicate women in gaol for conscience sake will be one which will puzzle and disgust the nation.

EAST EDINBURGH BYE-ELECTION.

Committee Rooms—61, Montrose Terrace, Edinburgh.

The figures at the last election were:—Sir George McGrag (Lib.), 6,606; Rankin Dawson (Con.), 2,432.

It is stated that owing to the appointment of Sir George McGrag, M.P., as Vice-President of the Scottish Local Government Board, a vacancy has been caused in East Edinburgh. Mr. John Cowan has been mentioned as the possible Liberal candidate, and it is said that the Unionist party has also a candidate ready to take the field. Preparations have been made by the W.S.P.U. to conduct a vigorous campaign, committee rooms being under the charge of Miss Cecilia and Miss Evelyn Haig.

OUR POST BOX.

AN ARGUMENT FROM HOLLOWAY.

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

DEAR SIR,—Woman Suffrage has passed out of the region not only of romance, but of rational discussion. We are dealing in platitudes which the stupidity of our opponents convert into revolutionary paradoxes. If militants are going to prison for the sake of a self-evident proposition, their argument—the argument from Holloway—is the only really fresh and vivid one I know. It is lack of courage rather than lack of conviction that deters me personally from using it. The Sixth Commandment and the Fifth Proposition in Euclid seem to me more brilliantly debateable than Women's Suffrage! I am glad that you have good news of your brave prisoners.—Yours, etc.,

MAY SINCLAIR.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE HOME SECRETARY.

A correspondence has taken place between Mrs. Saul Solomon, widow of the late Saul Solomon, M.L.A., Capé Colony, and Mr. Herbert Gladstone extracts from which we are invited to publish. In the course of her first letter Mrs. Solomon said:—

In conclusion, may I point out to you, and through you to your honourable colleagues, that these methods will eventually defeat the ends in view. When fully made known and understood, all civilised people will recoil from this way of wounding every sensibility of womanhood, and from this extraordinary abuse of the physical force at the service of the Government.

Mr. Gladstone in his reply said:—

Mr. Gladstone notices that you not only admit that you attempted to force your way through the police, but that, having failed in one endeavour, you returned to Caxton Hall and announced your intention yet to succeed in your object of effecting an entrance into the House of Commons by leading a second deputation. I am to point out that this involves a deliberate defiance, not of the Government, but of the House of Commons itself. The police were acting under the direct orders of the House itself in the shape of a Sessional Order. . . . The deputation endeavoured to prevent the police from carrying out those orders. If in these circumstances undesirable scenes occur the whole responsibility rests with those who defy the orders of the House of Commons.

Mrs. Solomon replied:—

You speak, sir, of my having attempted to "force my way through the police," and that I admit this. Frankly, as I do not possess physical force, I am incapable of boasting of using it. My only kind of force is that of will power and spirit energy. "Courage mounteth with occasion," and we women are going to win. . . . The present policy and repressive methods of the Liberal Cabinet in England towards the vanguard of Woman Suffragists may well thrust to the front the noblest and the best of womankind for the help and elevation of the co-operating men and women of our great Empire. But what of this Cabinet, with all its vast possibilities and splendid prospects? Is not the handwriting of doom appearing upon the wall? "Weighed in the balance and found—wanting!"

ON STRIKE.

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

DEAR SIR,—A letter in the *Times* of the 22nd ult. proposes that all English women should help their country by joining the National Service League. I suggest that until English women are accorded the same rights, privileges, and justice as men they should abstain from assisting the State either by joining the National Service League or by becoming Territorial nurses. Let them, in fact, wherever possible, "go on strike."—Yours, etc.,

(Mrs.) G. R. BUBY.

Mayfield House, Farnham, Surrey.

IL-LIBERAL LIBERALISM.

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

DEAR SIR,—One of the speakers at the Queen's Hall meeting struck the true note when he referred to the transcendental spirit in the movement for "Votes for Women"—that is, an informing spirit born of a fundamental principle. It is clear, from the comments of otherwise intelligent outsiders, that to them the demand for the vote is merely an item—perhaps the culminating item, but

still an item—in the list of assertiveness of the "forward" school of women. To those inside it has the moral sanction of a fundamental principle, a principle, moreover, underlying a hundred items of assertive discontent, and, as it were, unifying them in one clear demand for freedom. Directly it is stated in express terms it is found to be as immoral and impolitic to allow a stigma to remain on a whole sex as it is irrational and unphilosophical to draw an indictment against a nation.

Is there not reason to think that in restoring to a sex its freedom we may be conferring health to the State?

And much it grieves my heart to think
What man has made of man!

Economic problems, social problems, international problems—when were they so urgent and so baffling? An era of blind force, outworn and discredited, and no vital new conception to take its place!

A hundred voices are telling us that Liberalism is outworn and has done its work. Its worst enemy could not wish for a clearer enforcement of this judgment than is given by the present attitude of the trustees of the Liberal tradition faced with this demand for the application of its principles. If there is little hope of liberalising Liberalism, there is no reason to doubt that statesmanship and diplomacy may again be equal to the problems of the hour—when this civil strife is ended by the enfranchisement of women; and a British Government represents and speaks for the whole nation, and not for one sex only.—Yours, etc.,

S.

Mrs. Pankhurst has received the following letter from Lady Knyvett:—

"My dear Mrs. Pankhurst,—I have taken in a well-known sixpenny weekly paper regularly, year after year, for I should think quite thirty-five years. When it alludes to us at all it is always derisively. I therefore propose ceasing entirely to take it, and in its place taking six copies weekly of *VOTES FOR WOMEN* and circulating them. Thus I shall add £1 6s. per annum to the circulation of our paper. I am writing to the editor of the weekly to which I allude to that effect. Now, I know that my £1 6s. will make no difference, but supposing 300 of our Union would withdraw their £1 6s. per annum subscription from this paper, that works out at £390 per annum loss to the paper alluded to, and gain to us, as we can get six copies of our paper for one of the sixpenny ones. This suggestion is my response to the *VOTES FOR WOMEN* appeal; it is to meet that earnest wish of our dear treasurer, that she expressed so strongly before going to prison, as to our using our organ for increased propaganda. I am perfectly certain that if this were done on a large and combined scale many of the papers would soon alter their tune about us.—Yours, etc., EMILY KNYVETT."

SUFFRAGISTS AT GIRTON.

The following letter has been received by Miss Christabel Pankhurst:—

DEAR MADAM,—Several times in the past two or three weeks I have been confronted with statements made by Anti-Suffragists, both at public meetings and in the Press, concerning the number of Suffragists and Anti-Suffragists at Girton College. It has been stated that there is an Anti-Suffrage majority at Girton. May I beg you to contradict this statement.

The members of the Anti-Suffrage Club number *twenty-eight*, whilst those of the Suffrage Club number *ninety-seven*.

The Suffrage Club includes every member of the staff.—Yours, etc.,

F. E. WOLLERSEN,

President of the Girton College Women's Suffrage Club.
Gloucester Lodge, Sydenham, S.E.

ANOTHER DISGUSTED LIBERAL.

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

DEAR SIR,—Mr. T. Shackleton, of Glodwick, Oldham, has placed his Parliamentary vote entirely at the disposal of Miss Mary Gawthorpe until such time as the Government grants the just claims of women.

EDITH SHACKLETON HEALD.

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

DEAR SIR,—I am compiling a list of famous people who have declared themselves in favour of women having the Parliamentary vote. As I wish to have this list as exhaustive as possible, I would esteem it a great favour if you would ask your readers to help me by forwarding any names they know of to me at this address.—Yours, etc.,

ADRIAN BRUNEL,

Member of Men's League for W.S.

68, Osborne Villas, Hove.

WELCOME!

TO E. P. L.

"Out of the darkness comes the Dawn—
The Lightning flash is born of the Storm;
And from the greatest love on earth
The Spirit of Freedom shall have birth."—J. ROBERTS.

Dear Members and Friends of the Women's Social and Political Union,—

On April 16 we shall have the joy of welcoming our Treasurer back to us again. The strain of her two months' imprisonment, borne so cheerfully for the great cause to which she has already given so much devoted personal service, so great a share of her time and thought, and which entirely holds her heart, will be put behind her, and she will face the future and its work with the practical forethought which is one of her most distinguishing characteristics. For the purposes of that work she has long seen the many ways in which a motor-car could be utilised, and she has realised that, by its use, many economies of time and energy would be effected, while its value from an advertisement point of view is obvious. The opportunity has now arisen for us to show Mrs. Pethick Lawrence how dear she personally is to us all, and how deeply we appreciate her utterly unselfish devotion to the Cause for which our Union stands. The motor-car which we propose to present to her will cost over £400. Towards that amount £70 has been received. The time during which the presentation fund can remain open is of necessity very short. I would therefore urge that those who have been inspired by her splendid example and stirred by her spoken and written words should take this opportunity of giving expression to something of the love and gratitude they bear her. Please send your contributions to me at 4, Clements Inn, with all possible speed.

Mabel Tuke.

PROGRAMME.

The arrangements for the welcome to be accorded to the Hon. Treasurer of the N.W.S.P.U. on her release from Holloway are now complete. It will be one of those days which will go down in the history of the women's movement as "red letter" days. The following is the order of events:—

Friday, April 16.—

8 a.m., at Holloway Gates.

A Carriage Procession from Holloway Prison to the Criterion Restaurant, Piccadilly Circus.

9 a.m.—Breakfast, Criterion Restaurant, Piccadilly Circus.

(Tickets, 2s. each, from the Ticket Secretary, 4, Clements Inn.)

An Address will be delivered by Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Mrs. Pankhurst in the Chair.

Saturday, April 17.—

PROCESSION AND GREAT PUBLIC MEETING AT THE ALDWYCH THEATRE.

2.30 p.m.—Form up in Hyde Park (Marble Arch).

The Procession will include Colour Bearer, Bands, the Committee and Organisers of the W.S.P.U., Mrs. Pethick Lawrence's Carriage, Members of the Deputation of February 24, Horsewomen, representatives of Women's Societies, W.S.P.U. members, and other supporters of the Women's Cause.

3 p.m.—March via Oxford Street, Regent Street, Piccadilly Circus, Cookspur Street, Charing Cross, Strand, to the Aldwych Theatre.

4.30 p.m.—Great Public Meeting at Aldwych Theatre.

Speaker, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence. Chair, Mrs. Pankhurst.
All seats reserved, 2s. 6d., 1s., and 6d., from Ticket Secretary, 4, Clements Inn.

It will be noticed that the welcome is in two parts—i.e., two days will be devoted to it—and those who cannot be present on both days will, we are sure, make a point of doing honour to our Hon. Treasurer on one day at least. Many who are out of town on their holidays will no doubt come up specially for the day, and a very large rally of the forces is expected.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

At Queen's Hall, London, next Monday, April 5, Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Christabel Pankhurst, and Lady Constance Lytton will be the speakers at the At Home at 3 o'clock. Strangers as well as members and friends of the Union are welcome. There will be no At Home on Easter Monday, April 12, but the At Home will be held as usual on Monday, April 19. There will be no At Home in St. James's Hall on Thursday evenings, April 8 and April 15, but they will commence again on April 22.

Arrangements as to the At Homes to be held throughout the country will be found on pages 509–11.

The Albert Hall Meeting.

Arrangements are being made to ensure the success of the great Albert Hall meeting on April 29, and all readers of VOTES FOR

WOMEN and their friends are invited to take tickets early for this great gathering. The International delegates of the Woman Suffrage Congress will be among the audience, and a special presentation will be made to all members of the W.S.P.U. who have suffered imprisonment for the cause. Tickets, price 5s., 2s. 6d., 1s., and 6d., can be obtained from the Ticket Secretary, 4, Clements Inn, W.C. Men are admitted to the 5s. and 2s. 6d. seats only.

The Exhibition.

As there are now only five weeks to the great Exhibition on May 13 to May 26, readers are invited to use every means available for making it known to their friends. Posters and handbills are now ready, and will be sent free on application to the Exhibition Secretary, N.W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn.

The Boat Race.

Women who are able to act as sellers at the University Boat Race to-morrow (Saturday) are referred to the London report on page 509. Mrs. Mosen is in charge, and will give full particulars to helpers calling at the office before 10 a.m.

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS.

April	Birmingham, 14, Ethel Street	VOTES FOR WOMEN Corps	11.30 a.m.
Fri. 2	Clevedon, At Home, Old Vicarage Restaurant	Miss Vera Wentworth	3 p.m.
	Bristol, Women's Meeting, Hornfield Tavern	Miss Ball	3.30 p.m.
	Bishopstone, Open-air Meeting	Miss Ball	7.30 p.m.
	Streatham Town Hall, reception to Mrs. and Miss Tyson	Miss Seymour and ex-prisoners	7.30 p.m.
	Manchester, At Home, Onward Buildings, Deansgate	..	8 p.m.
	Fulham, 20, Churchfield Mansions, New King's Road	General meeting	8 p.m.
	Glasgow, At Home, 141, Bath Street	Miss Conolan, Miss Paxton	8 p.m.
	Clevedon, Public Hall	Miss Vera Wentworth	8 p.m.
Sat. 3	Manchester, 169, Oxford Road	Lancashire VOTES FOR WOMEN Week	10 a.m.
	Glasgow, At Home, 141, Bath Street	Miss Conolan, Miss Hunter	3 p.m.
	Putney, Open-air Meeting	University Boat Race Day	7 p.m.
	Aberdeen, At Home, Kennaway's Rooms	Miss Adela Pankhurst, Miss Flatman	8 p.m.
	Bradford, Advertising Parade	Miss Marsh, Mrs. Clarke, Miss Crocker	11.30 a.m.
	Bradford, Open-air Meeting	Mrs. Mosen	3 p.m.
Sun. 4	Hampstead Heath	..	3 p.m.
	Clapham Common	..	3 p.m.
	Blackheath	..	3 p.m.
Mon. 5	London, At Home, Queen's Hall	Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss C. Pankhurst, and others	3.5 p.m.
	Bristol, Victoria Rooms, Clifton	Miss Annie Kenney	3.30 p.m.
	Gloucester Place, W., Mrs. Frances Smith's Drawing-room meeting	Mrs. Pankhurst, Lady Constance Lytton, Miss Brackenbury	4.30 p.m.
	Bradford, 61, Manningham Lane	Special Steward's Meeting	8 p.m.
	Chelsea, 4, Trafalgar Studios, Beginners' Elocution Class	Miss W. Mayo	8.45 p.m.
	Weston-super-Mare, At Home, North Street Hall	Miss Vera Wentworth	..
Tue. 6	Bradford, Cyclists' Advertising Parade	..	11 a.m.
	Liverpool, At Home, 43, Mount Pleasant	Miss Mary Phillips, Mrs. Duncan	3.5 & 8.10
	Birmingham, At Home, Midland Hotel	Miss Gladice Keevil, Miss Louisa Phillips	3.30 p.m.
	Newcastle-on-Tyne, Grand Assembly Rooms, Barras Bridge	Mr. Forbes Robertson; Chair—Hon. Mrs. Parsons	3.30 p.m.
	Wolverhampton, Priory Bms., Old Square	Miss Gladice Keevil, Miss Louisa Phillips	7.30 p.m.
	Glasgow, Masonic Hall	Concert	8 p.m.
	Harley Street, W., Mrs. Morris' Drawing-room Meeting	..	8.15 p.m.
Wed. 7	Newcastle-on-Tyne, At Home, Crosby's Café, Northumberland Street	Miss New	3 & 8 p.m.
	Hendon, At Home, Mrs. Fahey's release	Miss Dugdale	4 p.m.
	Wolverhampton, St. Peter's Institute	Miss Louisa Phillips	8 p.m.
	Wood Green, Unity Hall	Bowes Park W.S.P.U., Miss Marsh	8 p.m.
	Bradford, St. George's Hall	Miss Christabel Pankhurst	8 p.m.
	Edinburgh, Roseburn Hall, Murrayfield	Miss Macaulay; Chair—Miss Milne Chapman	8 p.m.
	Chelsea, 93, Oakley Street	Chelsea W.S.P.U.	8.30 p.m.
	Chiswick, At Home	Miss Bonwick	8.30 p.m.
	Aberdeen, Workers' Meeting, 414, Union Street
Thu. 8	Birmingham, 14, Ethel Street	VOTES FOR WOMEN Corps	11.30 a.m.

IMPORTANT FUTURE EVENTS.

April	16	Release of Mrs. Pethick Lawrence	Holloway Gates	8 a.m.
	17	Welcome Procession to Mrs. Lawrence	Marble Arch	2.30 p.m.
		Aldwych Theatre	Mrs. Pankhurst, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Christabel Pankhurst	4.30 p.m.
	19	Newport, Temperance Hall	Mrs. Pankhurst	8 p.m.
	23	Bath, Guild Hall	Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Lady Constance Lytton	3 p.m.
	29	London, Albert Hall	Mrs. Pethick Lawrence	..
	30	Bristol, Victoria Rooms	Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Lady Constance Lytton	..
May	5	Kensington, Town Hall	Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Lady Constance Lytton	..
	7	Birmingham, Town Hall	Mrs. Pethick Lawrence	..
	13-26	Prince's Skating Rink	Exhibition and Sale of Work	..

The National Women's Social & Political Union.

OFFICE:

4, CLEMENTS INN, STRAND, W.C.

Telegrams:—"WOSPOLU, LONDON." Telephone: Holborn 2724 (three lines)

Bankers: Messrs. BARCLAY & CO., Fleet Street.

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Mrs. PANKHURST,

Founder and Hon. Sec.

Mrs. TUKE,

Joint Hon. Sec.

Mrs. PETHICK LAWRENCE,

Hon. Treasurer.

Miss CHRISTABEL PANKHURST,

Organising Sec.

The Women's Social and Political Union are NOT asking for a vote for every woman, but simply that sex shall cease to be a disqualification for the franchise.

At present men who pay rates and taxes, who are owners occupiers, lodgers, or have the service or university franchise possess the Parliamentary vote. The Women's Social and Political Union claim that women who fulfil the same conditions shall also enjoy the franchise.

It is estimated that when this claim has been conceded, about a million and a quarter women will possess the vote, in addition to the seven and a-half million men who are at present enfranchised.

The Women's Social and Political Union claim that a simple measure, giving the vote to women on these terms, shall be passed immediately.

A LETTER FROM PRISON.

HOLLOWAY PRISON, March 26, 1909.

My dear Friends and Fellow-members of our beloved Union, I send you greeting and love. I am with you constantly in thought and spirit and desire. Very soon I shall be with you in the flesh. I have felt, and I still feel, the support of your thoughts and good wishes. You must know that I have not seen a newspaper since I came here. I am very ignorant as to how the world is wagging. In Holloway "nobody knows nothing," so it would be quite useless to ask questions. Knowing nothing can be carried to a fine art. But across this night of oblivion glorious flashes of good tidings have come to me. One was the report sent for my signature. Great was my satisfaction to know that we had raised the whole £20,000 during the year. That we should be very near to our mark I felt sure before I came here, but

"Oh, the little more, and how much it is;
The little less and what worlds away."

In our Union we pride ourselves on attaining our standards!

Another great joy to the heart of your Treasurer was to hear the sum raised in donations and promises during Self-denial Week. Eight thousand pounds is a good start at the beginning of the new financial year towards the fifty thousand we mean to realise unless we get the vote before the end of next February. I seem to hear some of you gasp, "Fifty thousand pounds!" I will tell you how it is to be raised. We have proved, have we not, that we ourselves are good for £20,000? We gave our utmost last year; we shall go on giving our utmost. The remaining £30,000 has to come from a public not yet touched. And what we have to do without a moment's delay, every one of us, is to go about everywhere preaching the gospel of Votes for Women, and bringing as many people as we can into the movement. Especially must new people be brought by all our members to our great meetings.

And now I come to the main point of this letter, which I write you from my prison cell. I have a great, great wish. And if I tell it to you I know that you will fulfil it. I want the Albert Hall demonstration on April 29 to be the greatest success, the most magnificent triumph, that our agitation has ever yet achieved. I beg every member in London to make the success of this meeting her individual responsibility, and to concentrate from now all her energies upon it. Take the tickets and sell them to friends. Let each one be responsible for a certain number and for their value in cash. If you cannot sell them all in the usual way, persuade some wealthy friend to

purchase tickets which can be given to those who cannot afford to buy for themselves. But make up your mind that you will dispose of six, ten, twenty, or fifty tickets, as the case may be.

The occasion is a particularly significant one. Women Suffragists from every civilised country in the world will be representing their respective organisations at the International Suffragist Congress in London. And this Albert Hall meeting is to give them welcome in the name of the Women's Social and Political Union. They have most cordially accepted our invitation to be present, and a certain number of seats have been reserved for them. It is also a demonstration in honour of all our members who have suffered imprisonment for the sake of women's emancipation. They will come from the North and the South, the East and the West, to the centre of re-union in the Albert Hall. They will wear their prison dress. Seats immediately behind the speakers will be reserved for them. Many interesting developments will be revealed as time goes on. It is to be a field day of the Militant Movement. I am allowed only one sheet of paper for this, my one monthly letter. I would say more about this matter, but space forbids. Will you, dear women in this Union, read into my brief words all that my heart would say, and will you carry out all and more than all that my heart could wish?

I want to tell you how delighted I am that the paper—our paper—is developing so rapidly. I hear it has reached 20,000 already. I hope it will reach 25,000 before I come back. That will be another joy. My Three Wishes! How splendidly they have been carried out. With all my heart I thank you all.

Oh, to see our flag again! To salute the colours! My eyes yearn for them. I comfort myself with the thought that my prison dress is green, my prison cap is white. Would that my apron were purple. My library card is faintly purplish! But one lives on small things in Holloway. And how one's perceptions and appreciations are intensified. How one learns the meanings and the values of the ordinary blessings and beauties of life which one is so apt to take for granted. Colour, music, sun, and stars, and, above all, human friendship and social intercourse. Wear the colours always; if not for your own sake, then for the sake of those who are in prison. I am convinced that wearing the colours is one of the best ways of attracting strangers to this movement. Curiosity and interest once stimulated, you know how quickly the rest follows. A large number of the deputation who went to prison with me were quite recent converts, who a few short weeks ago would have scouted the possibility of going to prison. Ours is such a wonderful movement. Nothing seems too much to hope, too great to believe and expect.

I must say good-bye to you. When you read this letter of mine there will be only two more weeks to pass before the joy of re-union is ours. Meanwhile, as I sit here in my prison cell, I know that in the world outside it is spring-time. Life is pushing its way through the clods. Life is rising like a tide through stem and branch, soon to overflow and bring a flood of beauty over the face of the world. Yes, and there is a stirring of new life in the heart of the human race, and especially in the heart of the world's womanhood. I feel it in our movement. I see the blossoming of new hope, new faith, new love, new courage, new energy. I know that in the cycle of the world's life a new spring is coming—has, indeed, come. This knowledge is my great joy. It is the joy which we all share, and which none can take from us. We will give body and soul and all that we have to minister to this new life. We will accomplish the purpose to which we have been called.—Yours in the strong bond of fellowship which unites us all in this movement,

Emmeline Pethick Lawrence.

RELEASE OF THE TREASURER.

Before the Albert Hall meeting comes the welcome to Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, the arrangements for which are described on page 503. The Public Breakfast at the Criterion on the morning of her release, Friday, April 16, the Great Procession, and the Aldwych Theatre meeting on the following day, must be carried through in a way which shall show our love for our dear leader and comrade and our enthusiasm for the Cause. Will those who wish to make this a record welcome write at once to Clements Inn?—C. H. P.

THE OPPOSITION OF THE LIBERAL GOVERNMENT.

Just before the Women's Parliament of Tuesday last the following correspondence took place between the Women's Social and Political Union and the Prime Minister as the result of a letter requesting him to receive a deputation.

10, Downing Street, Whitehall, S.W., March 27, 1909.

Miss Pankhurst,

DEAR MADAM.—In reply to your letter of the 26th inst., in which you ask the Prime Minister to receive a deputation from the National Women's Social and Political Union on Tuesday afternoon, the 30th inst., I am desired by Mr. Asquith to say that, so far as he is aware, no new facts have been adduced in respect to the controversy on Woman Suffrage, nor has there been, on the part of the Government, any change in their stated intentions with regard to this question.

Under these circumstances the Prime Minister is of opinion that no useful purpose would be served by his receiving the deputation in question.—Yours faithfully,

(Signed)

VAUGHAN NARR.

4, Clements Inn, W.C.,

March 29, 1909.

To the Right Hon. H. H. Asquith.

DEAR SIR.—In reply to your letter of the 27th inst., we respectfully renew our request that you will receive the deputation which is to leave the Women's Parliament at the Caxton Hall to-morrow (Tuesday) afternoon.

In the course of your letter you say that, so far as you are aware, no new facts have been adduced in respect to the controversy on Woman Suffrage. Let me point out that it is precisely for the purpose of laying before you all the facts bearing upon the question of Woman Suffrage, and upon the position which this cause holds in public esteem, that the deputation seeks to interview you.

Let me further point out that as you have never, since becoming Prime Minister, received a deputation from any of the Woman Suffrage societies, you have had no real opportunity of hearing the case for the immediate enfranchisement of women fully stated.

In the hope that you will be moved by these considerations to accord them an interview, the deputation will present themselves at the House of Commons to-morrow afternoon.—Yours faithfully,

(Signed)

CHRISTABEL PANKHURST.

From this it will be seen that Mr. Asquith advances as his excuse for refusing the reasonable request that he should receive a deputation his ignorance of those very facts which it was the desire of the deputation to lay before him. Naturally the Women's Social and Political Union decline to allow the Prime Minister to settle matters in this arbitrary and unconstitutional fashion. As we have before pointed out, to relinquish the attempt to lay the claim for women's enfranchisement before the Prime Minister would mean the collapse of the living movement for Woman Suffrage.

Speaking in the Name of Womanhood.

The women who time after time have gone forth from the Caxton Hall determined that, unless they are forcibly prevented from doing so, they will see the Prime Minister, are in very truth the representatives of all women who claim political enfranchisement. In them is personified the whole women's movement, and when they demand admission to the House of Commons and audience of the Prime Minister, they are speaking with the voice and in the name of every woman who seeks release from political bondage.

Realising to the full the meaning of their action and the responsibility of their position, the deputation of Lancashire women, with their colleagues from London and elsewhere, left the Caxton Hall on Tuesday, March 30, resolved that no weakness or hesitation on their part should cause the failure of their political mission. They made repeated attempts to gain admission to the House, until finally they were overcome by physical force. Some were arrested, and the others resolved to renew their efforts to see the Prime Minister on the following day. Confidence in women, love and admiration for them, are the source of the enthusiasm felt by members of our Union, and they have been intensified by the bravery and devotion shown by every member of this deputation.

The action of the Prime Minister in deliberately causing the arrest of these women by the unwarranted refusal to receive them, will still further injure his position in the country. It is now generally admitted in political circles that the militant campaign of the Women's Social and Political Union is a great and growing danger to the Government. Sir Charles McLaren has openly stated this to be the case in the House of Commons, and further proof is afforded by the overwhelming defeat of the Government at Croydon. From all quarters

come various explanations of the severe defeat suffered by the Liberal party, but undoubtedly a major cause of that defeat was the unpopularity of the Government's Woman Suffrage policy. A recognition of this fact is betrayed in Mr. Raphael's assertion that outside organisations impaired his chances. Just before the election took place the *Daily Chronicle*, in a leading article, attempted to conceal the fact that the Women's Social and Political Union had obtained a strong hold on the constituency, by saying: "If we may judge by the popular reception of the women who are opposing the advocate of Woman Suffrage in the obvious interest of the Conservative candidate, their uncompromising opponent, the absurdity of this propaganda offends the commonsense of the electorate," and again, "Whatever else the Croydon contest may have left undone, it has side-tracked the militant Suffragists from serious politics." But the real fact of the case is that the people of Croydon understand perfectly well that the Women's Social and Political Union opposed Mr. Raphael because, having accepted the leadership of Mr. Asquith, he had to all intents and purposes deserted the women's cause. The *Daily Chronicle's* assertion that our speakers had an unfavourable and discourteous reception is directly contrary to the truth, as can be proved by abundant evidence gathered from the columns of other newspapers. In this connection it is interesting to notice that the *Daily Chronicle*, while suggesting that the Union did not win the favour of the public, omitted to inform its readers of our great meeting in the Empire Theatre on the eve of the poll, which excelled in numbers and enthusiasm any meeting held by the political parties during the whole campaign. Far from "side-tracking the militant Suffragists from serious politics," the Croydon contest has confirmed our position in the political world.

The article in question is significant because of the implied admission which it contains that our power is recognised by official Liberalism. Never before has Woman Suffrage held this commanding place among political issues. It is the anti-Government policy which has worked this transformation. Women, because they lack the constitutional weapon, can oppose the Government only by means which, though essentially moderate, are yet unconstitutional. The electors of the country, now that they are roused to action by witnessing the struggle which women themselves are making, can, and do, oppose the Government by means of the constitutional weapon—the Vote. These two popular forces, the unenfranchised women and the enfranchised men working together, must necessarily succeed in securing the enactment of a Bill for Woman Suffrage. By resisting the inevitable the Government are doing more injury to themselves than to the women's movement. Delay in settling this question means that the Woman Suffrage forces are becoming so strong and united, that the day which brings Votes to Women may also bring to the Government the destruction which, if they acted now, might be averted. Moreover, the spirit of revolt against the Liberal Government which took rise amongst women is spreading. The example set for the women has not been lost upon the men who seek legislative change. The Welsh party are rejecting a policy of confiding patience for one of a more militant character, and are forcing the Government nearer and nearer to the point of action on the thorny question of Welsh Disestablishment. Even more formidable to the present Administration is the prospect that the Irish party may again resume the policy which twenty-five years ago made them the arbiter of political destinies.

The present Government made their first great mistake when they refused at the outset of their career to recognise the power, then latent, in the women's agitation. Already that mistake has cost them dear, in direct loss of support from women, and in the general disillusionment and disintegration which has been produced in the Liberal forces throughout the country. Many are the enlightened and far-seeing Liberals who know this to be the case. It is for them, if they care for the honour—for the existence even—of their party, to express to the Government their disapproval of the illiberal and unconstitutional methods which are destroying the Liberal cause in the constituencies.

Christabel Pankhurst.

DEPUTATION TO MR. ASQUITH.

THE LANCASHIRE SUFFRAGETTE. A PARODY.

Air: "The Lancashire Plover."

(See Chappell's "Popular Music of the Olden Time," Vol. II., p. 733.)

When I was down in Manchester, in famous Lancashire,
I worked hard in a factory for more than seven year,
Till I took up wi' t' Suffragettes, as you shall quickly hear—
Oh! we've tried in vain the vote to gain for more than forty year.

As me and my companions were going to Westminster
We spied a big policeman, though for him we did not care;
For we were in the right, my girls, and had no thought of fear—
Oh! we've tried in vain the vote to gain for more than forty year.

As me and my companions were walking straight along
Towards the House of Parliament, doin' nothing that was wrong,
We all were then arrested. Arrested! Do you hear?
Oh! we've tried in vain the vote to gain for more than forty year.

They took us by the shoulders and marched us all to jail;
Although the prison life was hard our courage did not fail;
For one long dreary month, my girls, they kept us locked up
there—
Oh! we've tried in vain the vote to gain for more than forty year.

Success to every Suffragette that lives in Lancashire!
Success to every woman who to have a vote would care!
Bad luck to the Liberal Government and tyrants everywhere—
Oh! we've tried in vain the vote to gain for more than forty year.

C. G. A.

(By Our Special Correspondent.)

On Tuesday last, when another deputation was sent to lay before Mr. Asquith the claims of women to citizenship, another black page was written in the history of the struggle for liberty against a Liberal Government. The proceedings began at three o'clock in the Caxton Hall, which was entirely filled by a most enthusiastic gathering of women. At the back of the platform was the banner of the London City branch of the Women's Social and Political Union, with its inspiring words, "Thoughts have gone forth whose powers can sleep no more," and as Mrs. Pankhurst and the delegates filed in to the stirring strains of the "Marseillaise," the enthusiasm was tremendous, applause and cries of "Bravo!" greeting each arrival.

From the gentle, dignified elderly lady who was chosen as leader, to the sweet-faced girl who proudly carried the banner, the members of the deputation showed by their faces their pride and happiness in their mission.

Mrs. Pankhurst explained that women would show the Government that they would not be deterred by hard treatment from working for the principles which a Liberal Parliament did not put into practice. Mr. Asquith had once more refused to receive a deputation, and it would be their duty to go again and yet again to lay their claims before him. (Cheers.)

She then read out the names of the twenty-nine women who had volunteered to go on the deputation, and called upon Mrs. Saul Solomon, who had been chosen as leader, to move the resolution, which was as follows:—

"THAT this PARLIAMENT OF WOMEN expresses its deep dissatisfaction with the Prime Minister's recent declaration that, while the Government wish to see a further extension of the Franchise to men, they are not prepared to carry a measure for the enfranchisement of women."

This Parliament calls upon the Government to abandon their present unsatisfactory policy, and to carry into law, without delay, a Bill giving votes to those women at present disqualified solely on the ground of sex.

A Deputation is hereby appointed, to whom is entrusted the duty of forthwith conveying this Resolution to the Prime Minister at the House of Commons and eliciting his reply."

(Signed) **ENNELINE PANKHURST,**

Chairman.

Mrs. Saul Solomon first called for an ovation for Mrs. Pankhurst on account of the Croydon election result, and then expressed her pride at being chosen to lead the deputation. It was a terrible thing that the Liberal Ministry should be so illiberal as to refuse citizenship to women; and they were going to urge the cause of woman before Mr. Asquith.

Mrs. Eates (Kensington), Miss Margaret Smith (Birmingham), Mrs. Morris and Miss Patricia Woodcock (Liverpool), Miss Rona

Robinson, and Miss Dora Marsden (Manchester) also spoke, each laying great stress on their pride and pleasure in representing in this deputation the views of those who could not speak for themselves. Miss Marsden evoked cheers by her declaration that as long as she held the colours she would not turn back.

To the strains of the "Marseillaise," mingled with the cheers of their comrades, the little band of women left Caxton Hall, only to be stopped by a long line of police and let through gradually in pairs to Victoria Street. From here to the very portals of the House of Commons progress was easy, the authorities having evidently underestimated the determination of the women. Mrs. Saul Solomon was allowed to enter the House, and on being told that Mr. Asquith was not in, she saw Col. Seely, who, however, refused to carry a message to a Cabinet Minister.

Meantime, just outside the door of the House, there was a struggle of more than an hour's duration, which the *Globe* calls "amazing," and which those who saw and understood found unspeakably shameful.

On the occasion of the previous deputations, the grievous sin of disturbing the sanctity of Westminster was speedily punished by imprisonment. But imprisonment was bravely borne by the women, it strengthened their cause, and worst of all it led to embarrassing questions in the House. Therefore the order had gone forth not to arrest the women, with a result which might have been foreseen. The brave members of the deputation advanced again and again to seek a way through the close row of police guarding the doors of St. Stephen's; again and again they were flung back into the roadway, perilously near to the horses of the mounted police. In such a struggle violence was unavoidable, arms were wrenched, women fell down, bruised and panting for breath. Faint and out of breath they were not to be daunted; they pressed forward in the hopeless attempt; they tried to pass unnoticed behind the crowd of spectators; their wonderful bravery, their endurance, their self-control will never be forgotten.

Among the cheers of the crowd, winning even the admiration of those who had come to see "sport," these women, dishevelled and muddy, made a picture of nobility and heroism, enduring for the sake of a great cause treatment such as surely no Government ever before meted out to the daughters of England. Sometimes a cry rang out that could not be repressed when one of them suffered more than usual. The police, it was evident, hated the job, but, of course, had to obey orders, and orders not to arrest but to keep the way clear were equivalent to orders to use violence.

And on this scene of heroism and shame, bravery and ignominy, the members of our House of Legislators looked on from the windows, one even saying to another: "The women squeak like rabbits." Is anything wanting to complete the tale of shame of the first Liberal Government of the twentieth century? As an eye-witness throughout, I cannot refrain from a personal expression of scorn for the members of the Government who allowed such things to be, and of admiration for the incredibly plucky behaviour of the colour-bearer, Miss Dora Marsden, Miss Rona Robinson, Mrs. Eates, and the other women.

Eleven women were arrested and charged with obstruction and assault. The ingenuity of this device compels admiration; the Government will now be able to say that the women were arrested not for seeking to interview the Prime Minister, but for common and disgraceful assault! Even this, however, will not make the women give in.

In all twelve arrests were made, including one man, a journalist, who made a chivalrous protest against the treatment of the women. The following are the names:—

Miss Alice E. Burton has passed most of her life on the stage, from which she retired about fifteen years ago to devote herself to the teaching of elocution. She describes herself as a "life-long rebel against the idea of women's intellectual inferiority," and joined the W.S.P.U. in September, 1908, after attending an open-air meeting.

Miss Emily Whiting Davidson has taken an active share in the London campaign, and is a valued worker in the cause.

Mrs. Florence Farmer, of Irish parentage, is the wife of a retired warrant officer who is heartily in sympathy with the movement. Mrs. Farmer believes that the vote can only be obtained by militant tactics.

Miss Dora Marsden took her B.A. degree at Manchester University. She has been a most loyal and ardent speaker and worker with Miss Mary Gawthorpe in the Lancashire Campaign for many months.

Mrs. Bessie J. Morris is an active worker in the Lancashire campaign.

Miss Kate Noblett is a worker in the Birmingham movement with Miss Gladice Keevil, where she has done much valuable work.

Miss Rona Robinson is a B.Sc. of the Manchester University, and is well known as a worker and speaker in Manchester, where she has worked under Miss Mary Gawthorpe.

Mrs. Julia Scott comes from Chertsey. For the sake of her children she feels that she is bound to take an active part in bringing about women's political enfranchisement.

Miss Margaret Smith is the daughter of a clergyman, formerly master at Rugby and Eton. She was educated at Bedford High School, and took her degree at the London University. After holding a post as teacher for seven years at King Edward's School, Birmingham, she became a Socialist lecturer. In November she succeeded in polling a large number of votes as a candidate for the Birmingham City Council. "The day when I felt woman's position most keenly," she writes, "was when I received a communication from the London University inviting me to become a member of Convocation, and informing me that only male members of Convocation were eligible to vote for the University member."

Miss Helen Tolson left school at seventeen, and took two years' training in household management at the Manchester School for Domestic Economy. She joined the W.S.P.U. after hearing Mrs. Pankhurst speak at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester, in 1908.

Miss Patricia Woodlock has been three times imprisoned for her share in militant action. When released after her second imprisonment she was only free for two or three days before being again arrested and sentenced to one month's imprisonment without the option of a fine. She has been described as "a great trial to Cabinet Ministers." Miss Woodlock is one of Miss Mary Gawthorpe's most untiring workers, and a brilliant speaker.

Mr. William Hutcheon is a journalist, and was arrested while making a protest against the treatment of the women.

AT BOW STREET.

The cases came up before Sir Albert de Rutzen at Bow Street on Wednesday morning. Mr. Muskett, who conducted the prosecution, did not make any opening statement, but called at once upon Superintendent Wells to give his evidence, which was to the effect that on the previous afternoon there had been scenes of considerable disorder, and that he had found it necessary to call out the reserves of police, both on foot and mounted, and that owing to the insistence of the women the footway became blocked and the roadway was obstructed. For a considerable time the police had endeavoured to persuade the women to desist, and had pushed them back into the crowd, but after about fifty minutes it had been found necessary to arrest some of them, and this was accordingly done. As a result order was not restored until 6.15.

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In connection with the W.S.P.U., a drum and fife band has been recently organised. The services of an instructor have been secured, and about twenty members are in training. There is still room for more recruits, who should be able to give Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday evenings to practice. When fully trained the band will be asked to perform from time to time, and will, it is hoped, be a regular feature on official occasions. Miss Dallas has been appointed Secretary, and all inquiries and communications should be addressed to her at 4, Clements Inn.

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But the ability displayed is not hard to understand. The women who are at the back of the Anti-Suffrage movement are not opposed to women taking part in politics. Indeed, many of them as members of the English upper classes and relatives of prominent politicians are past masters of the game. Their real objection is to sharing the power which from their position is already theirs with their poorer sisters. The Anti-Suffrage League is one of the many retreats where aristocratic privilege is defended, and therefore it meets in drawing-rooms and concert halls. It can never descend into the streets and make use of that democratic forum, the orange box at the street corner, as do the members of the Suffrage societies.

DEPUTATION TO MR. ASQUITH.

THE LANCASHIRE SUFFRAGETTE. A PARODY.

Air: "The Lincolnshire Poacher."

(See Chappell's "Popular Music of the Olden Time," Vol. II., p. 733.)

When I was down in Manchester, in famous Lancashire,
I worked hard in a factory for more than seven year,
Till I took up wi' t' Suffragettes, as you shall quickly hear—
Oh! we've tried in vain the vote to gain for more than forty year.

As me and my companions were going to Westminster
We spied a big policeman, though for him we did not care;
For we were in the right, my girls, and had no thought of fear—
Oh! we've tried in vain the vote to gain for more than forty year.

As me and my companions were walking straight along
Towards the House of Parliament, doin' nothing that was wrong,
We all were then arrested. Arrested! Do you hear?
Oh! we've tried in vain the vote to gain for more than forty year.

They took us by the shoulders and marched us all to jail;
Although the prison life was hard our courage did not fail;
For one long dreary month, my girls, they kept us locked up
there—
Oh! we've tried in vain the vote to gain for more than forty year.

Success to every Suffragette that lives in Lancashire!
Success to every woman who to have a vote would care!
Bad luck to the Liberal Government and tyrants everywhere—
Oh! we've tried in vain the vote to gain for more than forty year.

C. G. A.

(By OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

On Tuesday last, when another deputation was sent to lay before Mr. Asquith the claims of women to citizenship, another black page was written in the history of the struggle for liberty against a Liberal Government. The proceedings began at three o'clock in the Caxton Hall, which was entirely filled by a most enthusiastic gathering of women. At the back of the platform was the banner of the London City branch of the Women's Social and Political Union, with its inspiring words, "Thoughts have gone forth whose powers can sleep no more," and as Mrs. Pankhurst and the delegates filed in to the stirring strains of the "Marseillaise," the enthusiasm was tremendous, applause and cries of "Bravo!" greeting each arrival.

From the gentle, dignified elderly lady who was chosen as leader, to the sweet-faced girl who proudly carried the banner, the members of the deputation showed by their faces their pride and happiness in their mission.

Mrs. Pankhurst explained that women would show the Government that they would not be deterred by hard treatment from working for the principles which a Liberal Parliament did not put into practice. Mr. Asquith had once more refused to receive a deputation, and it would be their duty to go again and yet again to lay their claims before him. (Cheers.)

She then read out the names of the twenty-nine women who had volunteered to go on the deputation, and called upon Mrs. Saul Solomon, who had been chosen as leader, to move the resolution, which was as follows:—

"THAT this PARLIAMENT OF WOMEN expresses its deep dissatisfaction with the Prime Minister's recent declaration that, while the Government wish to see a further extension of the Franchise to men, they are not prepared to carry a measure for the enfranchisement of women.

This Parliament calls upon the Government to abandon their present unsatisfactory policy, and to carry into law, without delay, a Bill giving votes to those women at present disqualified solely on the ground of sex.

A Deputation is hereby appointed, to whom is entrusted the duty of forthwith conveying this Resolution to the Prime Minister at the House of Commons and eliciting his reply."

(Signed) **EMMELINE PANKHURST,**
Chairman.

Mrs. Saul Solomon first called for an ovation for Mrs. Pankhurst on account of the Croydon election result, and then expressed her pride at being chosen to lead the deputation. It was a terrible thing that the Liberal Ministry should be so illiberal as to refuse citizenship to women; and they were going to urge the cause of woman before Mr. Asquith.

Mrs. Eates (Kensington), Miss Margaret Smith (Birmingham), Mrs. Morris and Miss Patricia Woodlock (Liverpool), Miss Rona

Robinson, and Miss Dora Marsden (Manchester) also spoke, each laying great stress on their pride and pleasure in representing in this deputation the views of those who could not speak for themselves. Miss Marsden evoked cheers by her declaration that as long as she held the colours she would not turn back.

To the strains of the "Marseillaise," mingled with the cheers of their comrades, the little band of women left Caxton Hall, only to be stopped by a long line of police and let through gradually in pairs to Victoria Street. From here to the very portals of the House of Commons progress was easy, the authorities having evidently underestimated the determination of the women. Mrs. Saul Solomon was allowed to enter the House, and on being told that Mr. Asquith was not in, she saw Col. Seely, who, however, refused to carry a message to a Cabinet Minister.

Meantime, just outside the door of the House, there was a struggle of more than an hour's duration, which the *Globe* calls "amazing," and which those who saw and understood found unspeakably shameful.

On the occasion of the previous deputations, the grievous sin of disturbing the sanctity of Westminster was speedily punished by imprisonment. But imprisonment was bravely borne by the women, it strengthened their cause, and worst of all it led to embarrassing questions in the House. Therefore the order had gone forth not to arrest the women, with a result which might have been foreseen. The brave members of the deputation advanced again and again to seek a way through the close row of police guarding the doors of St. Stephen's; again and again they were flung back into the roadway, perilously near to the horses of the mounted police. In such a struggle violence was unavoidable, arms were wrenched, women fell down, bruised and panting for breath. Faint and out of breath they were not to be daunted; they pressed forward in the hopeless attempt; they tried to pass unnoticed behind the crowd of spectators; their wonderful bravery, their endurance, their self-control will never be forgotten.

Among the cheers of the crowd, winning even the admiration of those who had come to see "sport," these women, dishevelled and muddy, made a picture of nobility and heroism, enduring for the sake of a great cause treatment such as surely no Government ever before meted out to the daughters of England. Sometimes a cry rang out that could not be repressed when one of them suffered more than usual. The police, it was evident, hated the job, but, of course, had to obey orders, and orders not to arrest but to keep the way clear were equivalent to orders to use violence.

And on this scene of heroism and shame, bravery and ignominy, the members of our House of Legislators looked on from the windows, one even saying to another: "The women squeak like rabbits." Is anything wanting to complete the tale of shame of the first Liberal Government of the twentieth century? As an eye-witness throughout, I cannot refrain from a personal expression of scorn for the members of the Government who allowed such things to be, and of admiration for the incredibly plucky behaviour of the colour-bearer, Miss Dora Marsden, Miss Rona Robinson, Mrs. Eates, and the other women.

Eleven women were arrested and charged with obstruction and assault. The ingenuity of this device compels admiration; the Government will now be able to say that the women were arrested not for seeking to interview the Prime Minister, but for common and disgraceful assault! Even this, however, will not make the women give in.

In all twelve arrests were made, including one man, a journalist, who made a chivalrous protest against the treatment of the women. The following are the names:—

Miss Alice E. Burton has passed most of her life on the stage, from which she retired about fifteen years ago to devote herself to the teaching of elocution. She describes herself as a "life-long rebel against the idea of women's intellectual inferiority," and joined the W.S.P.U. in September, 1908, after attending an open-air meeting.

Miss Emily Wilding Davidson has taken an active share in the London campaign, and is a valued worker in the cause.

Mrs. Florence Farmer, of Irish parentage, is the wife of a retired warrant officer who is heartily in sympathy with the movement. Mrs. Farmer believes that the vote can only be obtained by militant tactics.

Miss Dora Marsden took her B.A. degree at Manchester University. She has been a most loyal and ardent speaker and worker with Miss Mary Gawthorpe in the Lancashire Campaign for many months.

Mrs. Bessie J. Morris is an active worker in the Lancashire campaign.

Miss Kate Noblett is a worker in the Birmingham movement with Miss Gladice Keevil, where she has done much valuable work.

Miss Rona Robinson is a B.Sc. of the Manchester University, and is well known as a worker and speaker in Manchester, where she has worked under Miss Mary Gawthorpe.

Mrs. Julia Scott comes from Chertsey. For the sake of her children she feels that she is bound to take an active part in bringing about women's political enfranchisement.

Miss Margaret Smith is the daughter of a clergyman, formerly master at Rugby and Eton. She was educated at Bedford High School, and took her degree at the London University. After holding a post as teacher for seven years at King Edward's School, Birmingham, she became a Socialist lecturer. In November she succeeded in polling a large number of votes as a candidate for the Birmingham City Council. "The day when I felt woman's position most keenly," she writes, "was when I received a communication from the London University inviting me to become a member of Convocation, and informing me that only male members of Convocation were eligible to vote for the University member."

Miss Helen Tolson left school at seventeen, and took two years' training in household management at the Manchester School for Domestic Economy. She joined the W.S.P.U. after hearing Mrs. Pankhurst speak at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester, in 1908.

Miss Patricia Woodlock has been three times imprisoned for her share in militant action. When released after her second imprisonment she was only free for two or three days before being again arrested and sentenced to one month's imprisonment without the option of a fine. She has been described as "a great trial to Cabinet Ministers." Miss Woodlock is one of Miss Mary Gawthorpe's most untiring workers, and a brilliant speaker.

Mr. William Hutcheon is a journalist, and was arrested while making a protest against the treatment of the women.

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QUESTIONING CABINET MINISTERS.

When, on Thursday evening, Mr. Runciman was the guest at the Hotel Cecil, the occasion being a municipal banquet, a member of the W.S.P.U., meeting him, put to him in the corridor a question concerning the Government's intentions. A lively discussion followed.

On Thursday, Mr. Haldane visited Northampton in connection with his Territorial scheme. He was several times questioned by members of the W.S.P.U., one of whom spoke to him outside the George Hotel, where he was entertained to dinner before the meeting. Although the police were present in full force, she was able to ask him, "Mr. Haldane,—What can you tell me about Votes for Women; will the Government do something?" The Minister for War replied somewhat gruffly, "I will tell you nothing." The police then removed her, but she had time to add, "Remember, we want Votes for Women this Session," before Mr. Haldane entered the hotel. Upon entering the Corn Exchange Mr. Haldane had another reminder, a woman remarking, "Remember, Mr. Haldane, no Votes for Women, no nurses for the Territorials!"

At Colchester.

Mr. Runciman and Earl Carrington were given a lively time at Colchester on Friday. A meeting had been arranged by the Home Counties Liberal Federation, and a special train was run from London. Two members of the W.S.P.U. travelled by the same train as Mr. Runciman, whom they met on the platform, and with whom they had some discussion on the militant tactics.

At the meeting women were either excluded or asked to sign a pledge promising not to interrupt. The two women therefore did not enter the hall, but, discovering a ladder outside, they mounted to the roof, and, opening a skylight immediately over the platform, said, "Earl Carrington,—Votes for Women this session." Then they closed the window, leaving the audience in a state of bewilderment. Speaking again from another window, they again questioned Earl Carrington, when stewards and audience ran out into the passage, and great confusion ensued. The women were called upon to come down, and some men swarmed up the ladder and seized them. So hysterical was the behaviour of a steward who endeavoured to fetch the women down that he missed his footing and fell upon the head of a policeman standing below.

Earl Crewe in the Strand.

People passing up and down the Strand on Tuesday afternoon were attracted by the sight of women carrying sandwich boards in the colours of the N.W.P.S.U. On one side were the words "Why does Lord Crewe imprison women for asking for the vote?" and on the other, "Women in Victoria have the vote: why not English women?" The occasion was the opening by Earl Crewe of the new Victoria Government offices between Aldwych and the Strand. During the afternoon large crowds gathered round the women, two of whom were able to question Lord Crewe as to the Government's intentions with regard to Woman Suffrage. As Earl Crewe left the building a woman who was waiting on the kerb thrust a megaphone through the window of his motor-car and said through it, "Earl Crewe, when are you going to give women the vote?" Earl Crewe, who appeared greatly disconcerted, made no reply.

TREATMENT OF SUFFRAGETTES.

PROTESTS IN THE HOUSE.

Mr. Gladstone was again severely criticised last week in the House of Commons on account of the treatment meted out to Suffragette prisoners, for which he as Home Secretary is responsible.

Mr. Swift MacNeill stated that the offence of the Suffrage prisoners was clearly a political one, and, if not condoned, should be at least treated as such. He compared the luxurious life of Dr. Jameson, another political offender, with the comfortless and degrading conditions of women prisoners in Holloway—cold due to insufficient bedclothing, inadequate lavatory arrangements, and absence of writing materials, which meant so much to educated people. The honourable gentleman then gave a description of how the women were stripped in the presence of several others and put into coarse prison dress; how they were obliged to rise at 5.30 a.m. and scrub their cells, and were not allowed to wash during the day, even after eating vegetables with their hands. He concluded: "One lady described the horrors of the life, and said that it was calculated to weaken the mind and produce madness. I say that it is scarcely creditable to any Government or to the House of Commons to allow these women to be imprisoned for weeks for such offences as these, and I shall continue to urge the matter in every way in my power upon the Home Secretary, who is absolutely responsible."

Mr. MacNeill was warmly supported in his protest by Mr. John Dillon, who spoke from personal experience of the degradation of

prison clothes and the prison system. He described the treatment of the women as a "positive disgrace to the Government," and stated that the women "were unquestionably political prisoners," and would not be treated in any other civilised country as they were in England. He thought nothing was more likely to strengthen the movement. There was no disgrace attached to these ladies when they came out; they were honoured by their friends and by the public, and although some punishment might be necessary, a technical offence of this nature did not justify such humiliating treatment. Prison clothing, which was instituted as a sanitary precaution in the case of dirty prisoners, was in the case of Suffragettes a wanton outrage, inflicted for no other motive than to insult and degrade. Many people thought this treatment was vindictive, because the women's attacks had been directed against the House itself.

Mr. Byles called upon the Government to put a stop at once to this treatment of the women prisoners. It was confusing the public mind as to the meaning of crime to mix up women who acted from honourable and public-spirited motives with the ordinary criminal. If the Government could not find some better way of stopping women who desired to present a petition to the Prime Minister it was time the Government had more intelligent members.

The Under-Secretary of State (Mr. H. Samuel) replied on behalf of Mr. Gladstone, who was absent through indisposition. He stated that since 1898 the Prisons Act left to the magistrate's discretion the division in which the prisoner was placed, and since that the Home Secretary had not overridden the decision of the court. When no division was mentioned by the magistrate the Home Secretary might use his influence. First division sentences would only lead to the adoption of these methods by supporters of other causes. Complaints had been inquired into and certain abuses remedied; every other allegation would be investigated and, if necessary, alterations would be made.

WOMEN TEACHERS AT MORECAMBE.

Miss Mary Gawthorpe writes:—Will all teacher members who have intended spending a brief holiday at some seaside resort during Easter please spend it at Morecambe? The National Union of Teachers, to which organisation I still belong, will hold the annual conference there from Monday to Thursday inclusive, and it is advised that at such a conference—representing as it does a majority of women teachers as compared with men—much practical good may be accomplished. Will teacher volunteers please communicate with Miss Helliwell, at 164, Oxford Road, Manchester?

THE ALBERT HALL MEETING.

Every member of the W.S.P.U. is, of course, keeping April 29 before her as the date of the Albert Hall meeting. A special invitation has been given to the delegates of the International Congress to be present on the platform, and another interesting feature of the meeting will be the presence of the W.S.P.U. prisoners. It has been decided to provide prison dress specially for the occasion, and it is thought that many of those who have served a term in Holloway for their political opinions may like to purchase the dress as a memento of their experience. A special presentation "Holloway" brooch has been designed, and this will, it is hoped, be presented to the prisoners at the Albert Hall meeting.

Miss Isabel Seymour, 4, Clements Inn, will be glad to have the names of any members of the W.S.P.U. who have been to prison in the cause, in order that arrangements may be made for the presentations. Mrs. Pethick Lawrence will be in the chair, and the speakers will include Mrs. Pankhurst and Miss Christabel Pankhurst. Tickets for the meeting are in great demand, and application should be made early to the Ticket Secretary, N.W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn.

THE ACTRESSES' FRANCHISE LEAGUE.

A large meeting of this League will be held to-day (Friday), from 2 to 4 p.m., in the Grand Hall of the Criterion. The speakers include Lady Strachey, Lady Grove, Miss Frances Sterling, and Mr. Yorke Stanger, K.O., M.P. The hostesses for the League are Miss Eva Moore, Miss Lillah McCarthy, Miss Alice Crawford, and Mrs. Mouillot. All members of the League and their friends are expected to be present, and invitations are being sent to non-members, as the space is limited.

A correspondent writes:—"I have now used a Diamond Star Fountain Pen (as advertised in VOTES FOR WOMEN at 2s. 6d.) for over three months, often writing with it 4,000 or 5,000 words a day. It looks good for many years' work still; does not clog or play any of the usual tricks of the cheap fountain pens."

THE CAMPAIGN THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

LONDON AND HOME COUNTIES.

Office: 4, Clements Inn, W.C.

The next great event to which we are looking forward is the release of Mrs. Pethick Lawrence on April 16, to be followed on Saturday, the 17th, by a procession and a great public meeting at the Aldwych Theatre. Full particulars of this event will be found on page 503. I am sure that all our London members will make a very special effort to be present to welcome their Treasurer on her release after the very long imprisonment that was meted out to her. We want everyone to be with us on those days, and those who are spending their holidays out of town will no doubt make a point of running up for the occasion. Mrs. Lawrence's services to the Union are too well known to be commented upon here, and readers of VOTES FOR WOMEN do not need to be reminded of the debt of gratitude they owe to her. We shall all unite in the warmest possible welcome.

One of the sections of the procession will be formed by teachers. Miss Irene Dallas and Miss Ainsworth are engaged in organising this contingent, and they ask all teachers to send in their names as soon as possible, in order that they may know how many are likely to join the teachers' contingent. As the date occurs within school holidays, it is hoped that a great many may be able to join, and those out of town are asked, if possible, to make a special effort to be present.

It is hoped that as many people as possible along the route followed by the procession will show the tricolour. Many women may be able to help by joining a committee for the purpose of calling on tenants along the route and asking them to show the colours. Those willing to help either in organising the procession or in advertising it, or taking any other responsibility in the matter, are asked to send in their names as soon as possible to Miss Jessie Kenney, 4, Clements Inn.

Albert Hall Meeting.—Then I must remind London members of the great rally at the Albert Hall on the 29th, when Mrs. Lawrence will be in the chair, and the speakers will include Mrs. Pankhurst and Miss Christabel Pankhurst. Particulars of this meeting will be found on page 508.

The Boat Race.—The University boat race takes place to-morrow (Saturday). We have arranged to have a launch on the river advertising the Procession on Saturday, April 17, and the Albert Hall meeting on the 29th, and also for the sale of VOTES FOR WOMEN, and we are anxious to make the most of the opportunity afforded by the crowds always attracted by the boat race to make record sales of our paper. Sellers are wanted to go along the banks on either side of the river, and Mrs. Mosen will be at Clements Inn before 10 a.m. to give out papers to all who will come for them. Although the race does not begin until 12.30, crowds always collect long before that time, and it is well to be on the spot as early as possible. Those who cannot come in the morning will be welcome in the afternoon, as the crowds linger for many hours. Sellers should wear the regalia and the colours as conspicuously as possible. This is a special occasion, affording a unique opportunity for sales, and we want as many helpers as we can get.

The Drum and Fife Band.—Practices are being held regularly, and all who would like to join are asked to communicate at once with Miss Jessie Kenney. The services of an instructor have been secured, and practices are being held on Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday evenings, in St. James's Hall, until the band is fully trained. It will then be called upon from time to time to play during the day.

Sunday Meetings.—As the spring advances these will be held in the principal parks throughout London. The crowds are attentive and interested, and the opportunity for selling VOTES FOR WOMEN is very great. Will all members of the W.S.P.U. look down their programme each Sunday for the meeting that is nearest to them, and come and help the speakers and organisers.

Questioning Cabinet Ministers.—Two or three opportunities of questioning Cabinet Ministers have occurred during the past week. An account of this will be found on page 508.

The At Homes.—I want to urge upon all London members to look upon attendance at one or other of the At Homes as part of their duty towards the W.S.P.U. If possible, they should bring with them unconverted friends. At the Monday afternoon At Home this week Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Christabel Pankhurst, Miss Mary Gawthorpe, Miss Patricia Woodlock, and Miss Una Dugdale spoke to a large and sympathetic audience, and many contributions towards the Presentation Motor-car were handed up. This Thursday we welcome Miss Elsa Gye, and next Monday Lady Constance Lytton will speak at the Queen's Hall At Home. Owing to the Easter holidays, there will be no At Homes on Thursday evenings, the 8th and 15th, or on Monday, April 12 (Bank Holiday).

Among the successful meetings held during the week was one at Ealing on Thursday, when Miss Christabel Pankhurst was the speaker, and another in the Morley Hall on Friday evening. The meeting was arranged by Lady Sybil Smith. About 450 people were present, and from the sympathetic interest displayed it was evident that a great many conversions to the militant tactics were made.

An account of the deputation which left Caxton Hall on Tuesday

afternoon to interview the Prime Minister is fully reported on page 506.

The members of the deputation had a magnificent reception at Croydon on Saturday. Thousands of people lined the route as the brakes passed from Thornton Heath through the constituency, cheering the women again and again. The work done in Croydon during this bye-election has laid the foundation for a stronghold of the movement, and has been of very great educational value.

The account of the dinner to the twenty-six women released from Holloway on the 24th ult. will be found on page 498. It was a magnificent gathering, and I only wish some members of the Government had been present to hear the views expressed by the women just released, and their determination to fight harder than ever for political enfranchisement.

Flora Drummond.

WEST OF ENGLAND.

Shop and Committee Rooms.—33, Queen's Road (opposite Art Gallery) Clifton. Open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

At Homes.—Bristol: Victoria Rooms, every Monday, 3.30 to 5.30 p.m.

Stokes Croft: Assembly Rooms, meeting every Wednesday, 8 p.m.

Bath: Beau Nash Rooms, every Saturday, 3.30 p.m.

Weston-super-Mare: North Street Hall, every Monday, 3.30 p.m.

I have again to report most encouraging progress in the funds. Letters are still coming in bringing contributions for an organiser for Cornwall, and I have to report a total of £28 8s. 10½d. sent to the Treasurer during the last three weeks for the various objects we have in view:—

First week, £7 8s. 6½d.; second week, tickets (Colston Hall), £2 13s. 6d.; Mrs. Hay, sweets, Self-denial week, 5s. 11d.; Miss Ida Farnell, 10s.; Penzance meeting, £6 19s.; Mrs. Bolitho, Penzance, £1; Mrs. J. W. Boyd Carpenter, £1; Plymouth meeting, 8s. 6d.; Mrs. Pritchard, Self-denial card, 10s.; Miss Fussell, 13s. 6d.; Mrs. Dove Wilcox, 13s. 6d.; Meeting, 11d.; Mrs. Young (marmalade), 2s.; Victoria Rooms collection, 18s.; Miss Maud Fussell (promise card), £2 2s.; Miss King, 3s. 6d.; Miss R. Hurlford, 5s.; Miss A. Hurlford, 2s. 6d.; Miss Cary, Self-denial card, 7s. 2d.; March 22, collection, Victoria Rooms, 17s. 4d.; Mrs. Mason, 5s.; Miss Hay, sweets, 6d.; Miss A. James (card), £1 and loan of flag.

We hope to be quite settled in our new shop before I send in my next account. We are having a flagstaff on the roof, and we shall hoist the flag for the first time on the arrival of Mrs. Pethick Lawrence in Bristol. After next week there will be no more weekly indoor meetings, as we shall be starting our open-air campaign. The weekly At Homes will, however, still go on, as they are the best means of bringing new members and workers into the movement. Last week Miss Ball was our speaker.

We gave a very warm welcome to our two released prisoners last week after their month's imprisonment as the result of their share in the deputation of February 24. Members and friends and large and interested crowds were waiting for them at the station. They were presented with bouquets of flowers, and the procession, headed by a band, marched to the Queen's Hotel. In the evening a reception was given them in the Queen's Hotel, Miss Barrett making a presentation to Miss Pitman, and Mrs. Dove Wilcox to Miss Mary Affan, on behalf of the Bristol members. I also want to thank the Bristol women for the beautiful basket of flowers that was given to me that evening. I am prouder every day of the loyal support of our Bristol members.

Bath.—I am glad to be able to report progress here. I spoke for the Bath members last Saturday, and we made many plans for the future, especially for advertising the great meeting in the Guildhall on April 22, when Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and Lady Constance Lytton are to be the speakers. Before the date of that meeting, which members here are determined to make a great success, we hope to have a shop in Bath.

In another week or two I hope to have something definite to say about Plymouth and Cardiff. The following reports have come from Miss Elsie Howey and Miss Vera Wentworth:—

Weston-super-Mare.—Our work here is receiving great encouragement, and there is an earnest desire on the part of the public to understand our position. On Wednesday we tried the experiment of selling VOTES FOR WOMEN in the market-place at Bridgewater. Many copies were sold, and a great deal of propaganda work done in the way of answering questions, etc. On Friday next we are having two meetings in Clevedon, an afternoon meeting for women only and a public meeting in the Public Hall at 8 p.m. There will be an agricultural show at Glastonbury after the Easter holidays, and Miss Strangways has offered to pay for the hire of a shop for the three days during which the show will last. This week I have received goods to the value of 18s. from Miss Winifred Walker (a little girl of eleven) for our stall at the Exhibition. This week I am sending 9s. 1d. collection at At Home. [VERA WENTWORTH.]

Plymouth and Torquay.

"Votes for Women" Shop.—Victoria Parade, Torquay.

At Homes.—Plymouth: Royal Hotel, First Friday in every month, 4 to 6 p.m.

Torquay: Swiss Café, Victoria Parade, second and fourth Thursday, 4 to 6 p.m.

Paignton: Gerston Hotel, second Tuesday in month, 4 to 6 p.m.

The chief event this week has been the opening of our offices in the Victoria Parade. No passer-by can fail to notice these, the large windows being dressed in the colours and an attractive show of goods displayed therein, not to mention some fine pots of cineraria in the colours, the gift of Miss Baker. We are indebted to another kind member for the hire of a handsome oak chest, and we are

getting up a special fund to purchase other much-needed furniture, and to defray the cost of the electric light, etc. Mrs. Stevens and Mrs. Pilbury have each given 5s. for this purpose, and we hope many others will follow their lead. All day we have passers-by looking in our window, one being overheard to say, admiringly, "Women that can do things like that deserve a vote." The usual fortnightly At Home was held on Thursday in the Swiss Café. Will friends do their best to make these At Homes more widely known in the district?

[E. N. HOWER.]

Annie Kenney.

LANCASHIRE.

Headquarters.—Manchester, 164, Oxford Road.

Local Offices.—Preston, 41, Glover's Court.

Rochdale, 84, Yorkshire Street.

At Homes.—Manchester: Onward Buildings, Deansgate, Fridays, 8—10.

Liverpool: Engineers' Rooms, 48, Mt. Pleasant, Tuesdays, 3—5, 8—10.

Preston: Glover's Court, Wednesdays, 7.30 p.m.

Rochdale: 84, Yorkshire Street, Saturdays, 7.30 p.m.

Southport: Cambridge Hall, Saturdays, 3 p.m.

The organising of our Lancashire women for the deputation on Tuesday has taken all our time. The deputation were bidden "God speed" on leaving Manchester; they had a splendid reception at Croydon on Saturday, and again at the Queen's Hall on Monday. A full account of the deputation will be found on pp. 506 and 507. Our postponed VOTES FOR WOMEN week will take place from April 3 to 10. Mr. Forbes Robertson spoke magnificently at our At Home. Other announcements are held over till next week.

Liverpool.—The interest of the members and friends this week has centred round the departure of our brave comrades who are taking part in Tuesday's deputation to the Prime Minister. Five women went from Liverpool, and their fate will be known to all of us before this is in print. Brief notes about each of them appear on another page, but we especially want it to be known that Mrs. Hilton volunteered for this duty only the day after she joined the Union, a fortnight ago. The earnestness of her devotion to the cause has made a deep impression upon us all, and the cheerful way in which these women faced the risk of going on this deputation has stirred us all up to work our very best whilst they are away from us. We hope to manifest this largely in VOTES FOR WOMEN sales and bazaar work.

We are sending up, through Manchester, £1 18s. 5d. taken in At Homes. [MARY PHILLIPS.]

Mary E. Gawthorpe.

MIDLANDS.

Offices and Committee Rooms: 14, Ethel Street, Birmingham.

At Homes.—Birmingham: Midland Hotel, Tuesdays, 3.30;

Priory Rooms, Old Square, Tuesdays, 7.30.

Wolverhampton: St. Peter's Institute, Wednesdays, 8 p.m.

Important Future Event.—Birmingham Town Hall, May 7, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence.

I am delighted with the response to my request for drawing-room meetings in the Midlands; eight are being arranged for after Easter. They will do much towards strengthening our afternoon At Homes, which we are so anxious to build up, and I would remind all members who can to endeavour to come regularly on Tuesday afternoons. With a similar object we have now formed a visiting committee, which Miss Margesson has very kindly undertaken to organise. This work is another hopeful feature of our progress, and the increase in the number of women who are volunteering to give a regular day, or portion of a day, to the work is most satisfactory, but, of course, I want more! So will those who have not yet volunteered please give this matter their serious consideration? I want to ask this week very specially for offers of hospitality. Several members living a considerable distance from Birmingham are willing to give a week or a fortnight of their holiday to the work here. Will those who can provide hospitality please write to me so that I can make arrangements?

Miss Margaret Smith, B.A., took Mrs. Massy's place at our At Homes this week. When I announced that she was joining the deputation on the 30th the room was filled with sympathetic admiration, and her clear, lucid exposition of "Why Women Want the Vote" was listened to with the closest attention. One of our new members has been the president of a Liberal Association, but feels the time has now come to go on strike, and therefore has joined us.

Names are coming in excellently for the cycling scouts, and Dr. Helena Jones expects to have a most effective corps. Several of our members devoted one afternoon to pitch-finding in preparation for our open-air campaign.

Exhibition.—We have been promised a charming white kitten for our stall, and Miss Steen has some beautiful specimens of metal art work which she has offered to do in the colours. She is willing to show them to members, so that they may order brooches, buckles, pendants, etc., from the stall. Berkswell has promised the splendid sum of £12. Will all members in this district send contributions to Miss Lettice Floyd not later than May 8? In Wolverhampton, on May 10, an At Home will be given by Mrs. Percy Jones, when the articles from this district will be exhibited.

Easter Announcements.—There will be no At Homes on April 13 and 14, but they will recommence the following week, 20th and 21st. I hope to have matters of great interest to announce. The VOTES FOR WOMEN corps will be on Thursday, April 8, this week. Will those who have a holiday on this date please come and help, arriving at the office at 11.15. During Easter week (April 13, 14, 15, 16, 17) there is much work to be done, chiefly pitch-finding. Miss Jennings will be at the office at 11 o'clock each morning. Will those who can help on any one of these days send their promise to do so to 14, Ethel Street?

Tickets for the Town Hall meeting on May 7, when we shall have the pleasure of a visit from Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, are now obtainable from Miss Freeth, 14, Ethel Street; prices, 2s. 6d., 1s. (reserved), 6d. (unreserved for women only).

Stechford.—On Friday evening Miss Hazel and I spoke at a meeting excellently organised by Miss Neale. The room was crowded. At the close we asked the women to vote who were in favour of Women's Enfranchisement, and only one hand was held up against it. This is most satisfactory, as they are supposed to be completely under Mr. Austen Chamberlain's view on this question.

Handsworth.—On April 22 a reception will be held in the Albert Hall, Six Ways. Invitations are being issued by Mrs. Hill, 89, Hampton Road, Birchfields. Mrs. Davis will preside, and I shall speak.

Saltley.—Saltley has now twenty-seven members of its own, and they frequently meet at one another's houses to discuss the various aspects of our many-sided movement. On Thursday last Miss Hazel spoke to some of them at the home of Miss Ward, and on Wednesday evening they met at Mrs. Davis's house. An At Home is shortly to be arranged by them at which I hope to speak. Last Saturday, under the leadership of Miss Mathews, a splendid party of members went out in the streets with a barrel organ, gaily decorated in the colours. They collected 16s. 6d., which went to the Self-denial Funds.

Financial Report.—Contributions are still coming in towards the assistant organiser and office funds. I am sending this week 11s. from Mrs. Barnard, collected in threepenny-bits. This is a very good idea, and might be carried out by many of us. Also organiser fund:—£6 10s. Miss Joan Crombie; £1 1s. Miss Gristwood; 2s. per Mary Calway; Malvern, £1 13s. 6d.; self-denial (Miss Thompson), 2s. 6d.; Miss Grew, 3s.; Stechford collection, £1 0s. 0½d.; organ-grinding, 16s. 6d.; self-denial box in office, 5s.; total, £12 4s. 6½d. All communications should be addressed to me at 49, Bristol Street, Birmingham.

Gladice G. Keevil.

YORKSHIRE.

Headquarters.—Bradford: 61, Manningham Lane.

At Homes.—Bradford: 61, Manningham Lane, Mondays, 8 p.m.

Leeds: Arts Club, Blenheim Terrace, Woodhouse Lane, Wednesday, April 21, at 8 p.m. Stewards' meeting, Monday, April 5, at 8 p.m.

Important Events.—Bradford: St. George's Hall, Miss C. Pankhurst, Wednesday, April 7, at 8 p.m.

Miss Christabel Pankhurst had a very enthusiastic audience at the Coliseum, Leeds, on the 25th ult., and when she asked the women who wanted the vote to hold up their hands almost everyone present did so. The question at present in Leeds is, "When is Miss Pankhurst coming again?" Our thanks are due to the men friends who acted as stewards, and also to Mr. Bean, of Boar Lane, who sold tickets for us. Mrs. Clarke, Miss Crocker, Miss Roberts, and I are now back in Bradford working for the meeting in St. George's Hall on Wednesday, April 7. On Saturday we are going to have a decorated carriage driven by ourselves to advertise this meeting, and probably a cyclists' parade also. All tickets out on sale or return for this meeting must be returned at latest by Monday, April 5.

I shall be glad to hear from London members the names and addresses of any of their Yorkshire friends, especially those in Leeds and district, as we are anxious to gain new supporters.

The time remaining before the Exhibition is very short, and I hope members are working as hard as they can for the Yorkshire stall. I shall be glad to have further promises as soon as possible.

The dates of Miss Elizabeth Robins's lectures are now fixed. On Tuesday, April 27, she will speak at the Literary and Philosophical Society's Hall, Leeds, and on Wednesday, April 28, in the saloon of the Mechanics' Institute, Bradford.

After the Easter holidays the weekly meetings will begin again, in Leeds Arts Club on Wednesday, April 21, and in Bradford on Monday, April 26, and we shall also begin open-air meetings again. I hope all members will make a point of coming, and that many will begin to practice speaking this spring.

Financial Report.—Sale of tickets (Coliseum), £27 7s. 8d.; Collection, £4 12s. 5d.; Stoney Middleton Old Boys' Association (donation), 5s.; Flockton I.L.T. (donation), 5s.; Miss Crocker's expenses to Flockton, 2s.; J. W. Irving, Esq., 10s.; Miss Howie, 10s.; Miss N. Sharp, 2s.; Miss Hancock, 3s. 3d.; Miss Darbyshire, 1s. 6d.; Sale of hatpins (Miss Crocker), 1s. 6d.; grand total, £34 1s. 4d.

C. A. L. Marsh.

NEWCASTLE.

Headquarters.—38, Rye Hill.

At Homes.—Crosby's Café, Northumberland Street, Wednesdays, 3—5 and 8—10.

No greater encouragement to our work here could be given than the invitation to debate our tactics with the opposition. Our evening At Home last week took this form. The opponent was Miss M. Minton Senhouse, the case for being taken by myself. The "Pros" won the majority of votes. The open discussion was of a most interesting description, a great many on both sides taking part. New members were enrolled, and a good deal of literature was sold.

It is proposed to form a working party to supply work for the Exhibition, to be held on Thursday evenings. Will ladies who will join us in this please let us know at once, as the time is getting very short? There are a great many dolls still to dress, so will ladies willing to do them please let us know?

An event to which we all look forward is the visit of Mr. Forbes Robertson, who will speak for us on Tuesday, April 6, at 3.30, at the Grand Assembly Rooms, Barras Bridge, Newcastle. Tickets, 1s. each, may be had from Mrs. Atkinson, 2, Devonshire Terrace, and at 38, Rye Hill. Please apply early, as the number is limited.

Now the spring has come we hope to resume open-air work; we

invite those who can speak to let us have their names. The value of our open-air work is recognised by everyone. We need more help, too, in selling VOTES FOR WOMEN. If every member would be responsible for the sale of a small number among her friends every week, our circulation would rapidly increase.

There will be no At Homes on Wednesday, April 14, as this will occur in the Easter holidays.

We are proposing a meeting in Stanley, so will friends who live in or near there please let us know, so that we may have their help?

Edith New.

SCOTLAND. Glasgow.

Office: 141, Bath Street.

At Homes.—141, Bath Street, Friday, 8 p.m.

141, Bath Street, Saturday, 3 p.m.

Important Event.—Athenæum, Tuesday, April 20, at 3 p.m.,
Mr. Forbes Robertson, Miss Adela Pankhurst.

Miss Evelyn Sharp's visit was a very pleasant finish to her series of At Homes held in the Charing Cross Hall, the room in which these have previously been held proving quite inadequate for the large audience which came to hear her. During April the At Homes will be held at the office in Bath Street, where we hope especially to see all the workers, as there is a good deal to be arranged in connection with Mr. Forbes Robertson's meeting and the Prince's Skating Rink Exhibition. The account of promises already received will be held over until next week. Tickets for the Athenæum meeting, price 2s. (reserved), 1s., and 6d., are now ready, and may be obtained at 141, Bath Street.

Paisley.—In spite of the wet and dreary evening, a very successful meeting was held in the Y.M.C.A. Hall, thanks to the efforts of Miss Jean Bow, assisted by some of the Glasgow members. At the last moment, Dr. Katharine Chapman was unavoidably prevented from taking the chair, but Dr. Marion Gilchrist kindly filled her place. Miss Evelyn Sharp was the principal speaker, and from the keen interest shown, it was evident that the sympathy of the audience was with us from the start. All those who wish to have notices of future meetings should send in their names to 141, Bath Street, or to Miss Jean Bow, Dunscore, Paisley.

Stirling.—The crowded audience which filled the Y.M.C.A. was a proof of the excellent work being done in Stirling by Miss Ure and the local members. Mrs. Manners took the chair, and Miss Sharp made a most interesting speech, dealing chiefly with current events. It is hoped that Stirling may now be able to assist in contributing some work or other articles towards the Exhibition Stall; as the time is so short, all possible help is needed.

The steady increase in the literature sales, both at meetings and in the streets, shows how much interest is growing in our movement.

G. M. Conolan.

Edinburgh.

Shop: 100, Hanover Street.

Social Meeting.—Ardmillan Hall, Dalry, alternate Wednesdays, 8 p.m.

At Homes.—Society of Arts Hall, 117, George Street, Thursdays, 3.30 p.m.;
Marshall Street Hall, Thursdays, 8 p.m.

We are no sooner out of one bye-election than we are plunged into another, with an even bigger majority than before to annihilate! At the General Election Sir George McCrae, the retiring Liberal member for East Edinburgh, polled 6,606 votes, against 2,432 given for Dr. Rankine Dawson. We hope to give a good account of our fight in next week's issue.

Our Exhibition Secretary, Mrs. Maxtone Graham, reports good progress in the preparations for the Edinburgh stall. Further promises have been received as follows:—Goods to the value of £5, Mrs. Ivory; of £5, C. C.; of £1, Miss C. W. Haig; shortbread, oat-cakes, etc., to the value of £1, Miss J. G. Methven; a ring, £5 5s., Mrs. K. E. Roy Paterson Rothwell. But the time is short, and much still remains to be done. Will everyone who can in any way help in making our stall the success we all wish it to be communicate with Mrs. Maxtone Graham, 4, Eton Terrace.

Three fresh districts have been added to the number already being organised. Mrs. Ord, whom we are delighted to welcome into our band of workers, brings us into close touch with one of the old and valued friends of the Union, Mrs. Eates, of Kensington; she is undertaking the Morningside district, while Miss Mitchell is working Broughton (in the Parliamentary division of East Edinburgh), and Miss Gorrie Newington. Miss Marle, who is arranging the Murrayfield district, announces a meeting in the Roseburn Hall on Wednesday, April 7, at 8 p.m., at which Miss Chapman has kindly consented to take the chair. Miss Cecilia and Miss Evelyn Haig are concentrating on East Edinburgh and taking charge of the bye-election committee rooms.

I am asked to mention that the Edinburgh branch of the Scottish W.S.P.U. has decided to amalgamate with the National W.S.P.U., and, after winding up its affairs, to hand over all remaining funds to the Edinburgh Centre of the National W.S.P.U. I am sure that all of us who are members of this Edinburgh Centre are further united in the keen desire that it should be second to none in its efforts for the propagation of the Cause so dear to every one of us.

Florence E. M. Macaulay.

Aberdeen.

Office: Crown Mansions, 41½, Union Street.

At Homes.—Crown Mansions, 41½, Union Street, every Wednesday at 8 p.m.
First Wednesday in every month at 3 and 8 p.m.

April 3, At Home in Kennaway's Rooms, at 8.

Workers' Meeting each Wednesday at 41½, Union Street, at 8 p.m.

The work is progressing here so well that we propose to have a weekly meeting on Monday afternoons, beginning at the end of April;

we hope Miss Mary Gawthorpe will be present at the first. The small Y.M.C.A. room has been engaged for the purpose.

Miss Constance Ogston and I are holding a small At Home at 41½, Union Street, on Tuesday afternoon at 4 o'clock, where we hope to get together a good band of workers. A similar At Home will, we hope, be given later by two more members. An At Home was held on Thursday at the Grand Hotel, at which Mrs. Ogston kindly acted as hostess. There were more than eighty ladies present, and many who expressed an unsympathetic attitude on arrival announced their conversion on leaving. On the whole, it may be safely said that ignorance of its real meaning is all that stands in the way of our movement being the most popular one in Aberdeen. Several new members were made, and many ladies took away exhibition cards. Miss Ogston and Miss Macketh, Miss Morrison and Miss Dunn, and other friends are to be thanked for assisting to make the gathering a success.

On Saturday, April 3, an At Home is to be held at Kennaway's Rooms, Union Street, at 8 p.m. So many ladies have asked for invitations that we shall have to hold another meeting after Easter. We have to thank Miss Grant and Mrs. Lyon and other members for the splendid way they have assisted us this week.

Stonehaven.—Miss Flatman organised a meeting here for last Wednesday night. It was successful in every way. Professor McKendrick presided, and, after the meeting, several ladies expressed their intention of joining the W.S.P.U., and one promised a drawing-room meeting. Miss Flatman spoke at a well-attended drawing-room meeting last Tuesday, and made many converts. Miss Flatman is sending to the Treasurer the receipts from Stonehaven, amounting to £3 10s., and I am sending collections and contributions to the amount of £3 16s. 5d. I want to make a strong appeal to Aberdeen women here and in London for financial help, as we have to raise the rent of our office, amounting to £15, and I hope to be able to raise another £50 for the services of an assistant organiser.

Adela Pankhurst.

Are you the woman

who bought a bar of Fels-Naptha soap last washing day, read the directions about the Fels-Naptha way, thought you knew better, and then used hot water?

Was it you?

You can understand that you mustn't wash the baby with boiling water. Can't you believe us when we say you musn't use boiling water when you wash clothes with Fels-Naptha soap?

Boiling water will no more give proper results with Fels-Naptha soap than it will with the baby.

Next washing day, try Fels-Naptha soap the Fels-Naptha way. If you don't like it, your money back. There!

Laces

Soak; rub gently; squeeze the water out (don't twist), and rinse. Wind small, fine laces around a bottle; rub and squeeze with the hands, and rinse while still on the bottle. Stretch and dry! That's all!

Fels-Naptha

The soap with a Way of its own.

THE TREASURER'S NOTE

It is a very great pleasure to publish again, after an interval of five weeks, the contributions to the fund, which has mounted up during this time by no less a sum than £3,600, bringing the total up to close upon £33,000 in all. When I visited the Treasurer last week in Holloway, I was able to tell her the total amount of the Self-denial Fund and promises, and her pleasure at hearing that over £8,000 had been raised can well be imagined. She asked me specially to express to all the members her hearty appreciation of what they had done.

F. W. D.

F. W. P. L.

Contributions to the £50,000 Fund.

March 1 to March 30.

£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
Already acknowledged	29,308 16 3	Binyon, Miss Margaret	0 5 0	Gauntlett, Miss Irene R. (for	2 7 0
A.C.	0 2 6	(Votes for Women Fund)	2 2 0	Geoghegan, Miss Mary	1 0 0
"A Cowardly Sympathiser"	0 13 0	Birningham, Miss Ethel	0 2 6	Gerstenberger, Mr. Rudolf	0 1 3
(Organiser Fund)	1 1 0	Birt, Miss Ellen	0 17 6	(schoolboy)	1 1 0
"A Disgusted Liberal"	0 9 0	Birt, Miss Evelyn	0 10 0	Gibbes, Miss	5 0 0
"A few of those who may	0 9 0	Blackett, J., Esq., per Miss	1 1 0	Gibson, Miss Maud M.	1 10 0
not take an active part"	5 0 0	Mutch	0 10 0	Gill, Miss Rosa Brandon	0 4 0
(Organiser fund)	5 0 0	Blake, Lady	1 1 0	Gilles, Mrs. (Organiser	1 7 10
A Friend	1 1 0	Bone, Dr. E. H.	0 11 3	Fund)	1 0 0
A Friend	2 0 0	Bonham, Mrs. Helen	0 10 0	Gilliatt, Miss A. (Sale of	0 6 6
A Friend	15 0 0	Boulter, Mrs. Ina	0 3 6	Marmalade, Eggs, &c.)	5 0 0
A Glasgow Suffragette	1 0 0	Bowles Park W.S.P.U.	0 8 1	Goldstone, Miss M.	0 2 6
A Lady	1 0 0	Self Denial Tea, £2 10s.;	50 0 0	Goldstone, Miss (Organiser	0 2 0
A Lady	1 0 0	Women's Co-op. Con-	0 7 6	Fund)	0 5 0
A Member	0 7 6	gress to be foregone,	0 10 6	Gonne, Capt. and Mrs. C. M.	3 0 0
A Sympathiser	0 1 0	estimated expense,	0 10 0	Gonne, Mr. V. C. M. (school-	0 8 0
"A Woman"	0 0 6	£2 10s.; Winter Coat	12 10 0	boy)	1 1 0
"A working woman"	5 0 0	foregone, £2 10s.; Fine	2 0 0	Gordon, Mrs. A. D.	0 1 0
"A Y. H. B." (Organiser	0 4 0	for not going to Hol-	0 4 0	Goul, J., Esq., per Miss	1 0 0
Fund)	2 0 0	loway, £5	0 10 6	Mutch	1 0 0
Aitken, The Misses R. V.	0 10 0	Brackenbury, The Misses	0 10 0	Graham, Mrs. Maxton	1 0 0
and E.	0 10 0	(Bye-Election)	0 10 0	Grainger, Miss E. K. (Bye-	1 0 0
Alexander, Miss R.	0 10 0	Bremner, Miss C. S.	0 2 6	Election)	1 0 0
Allen, Chas. W., Esq.	1 1 0	Bridges, Mrs. Alice	0 3 6	Gratton, Miss J.	0 17 0
Allen, Miss E. W. (library	5 0 0	Brindley, Mrs. John	0 8 1	Green, Miss J. G.	0 4 0
subscription on)	8 10 0	Bristow, Miss Ethel C. A.	0 3 0	Gregory, Mrs. Lucie (jewel-	0 6 6
Allen, Miss M. Gray	1 1 0	Brixton W.S.P.U. (Collect-	50 0 0	lery sold)	0 2 0
Allen-Brown, Misses A. and	0 3 0	ing boxes in streets)	0 5 0	Grey, Mrs. A.	0 5 0
D. (diamond ring)	1 1 0	Brown, Miss Nora A.	0 7 6	Griffiths, Miss Charlotte	3 0 0
Alston-Paffard, H., Esq.	0 2 0	Budgett, Mrs. T. Mortimer	0 10 6	Guest, Mrs. Rhuvon	0 10 0
Ancliff, Miss Elizabeth	1 0 0	Burgis, Miss Edith	0 10 0	Guthrie, Miss L. Baillie	1 0 0
Anderson, Miss L. Garrett,	50 0 0	Burleson, Miss Mary	0 10 6	Haarbleicher, Miss E. F.	0 5 0
M.D.	0 2 0	(library subscription)	0 10 6	(Organiser Fund)	0 5 0
Anderson, Miss E. A. M.	1 0 0	Burman, Mrs. M. S. (Lecture	0 10 6	Haig, Miss Florence (Bye-	3 0 0
Anderson, Mrs. Garrett,	0 10 0	Fee)	0 10 0	Election)	0 8 0
M.D.	0 5 0	Burns, Miss L.	0 5 0	Hale, Miss Beatrice B.	0 10 0
Anon	0 5 0	Campbell, Miss	0 5 0	Hale, Miss Cicely B.	0 10 0
Anon	0 5 0	Canning, Miss F. M.	0 5 0	Hale, Miss Mildred	1 0 0
Anon	0 5 0	Carr, Miss C.	0 5 0	Hall, Miss	10 0 0
Anon	0 5 0	Carrie and Annie	0 5 0	Hammersmith W.S.P.U.	10 0 0
Anon	0 5 0	Carter, Miss J. E.	0 5 0	Self-Denial Week, £5 10s.;	10 0 0
Anon	0 5 0	Caunter, Mrs. (Organiser	0 5 0	from Union Funds, £4 10s.	6 0 0
Anon	0 5 0	Fund)	0 10 0	Harborton, Viscountess	0 10 0
Anon	0 5 0	Chambers, Miss Nellie (aged	0 1 6	Hardie, Dr. Mabel	0 10 0
Anon	0 5 0	6 years) (for laying lun-	0 9 0	Harmer, Miss Ethel M.	0 5 0
Anon	0 5 0	cheon cloth)	0 9 0	Hayes, Miss A. O'Connell	7 3 0
Anon	0 5 0	Chandler, Mrs. (As Organiser	10 0 0	Heale, Miss Alice	7 0 0
Anon	0 5 0	Fund)	0 10 0	Heale, Miss Juliette	5 0 0
Anon	0 5 0	Chapman, Mrs. Adeline	0 10 0	Heckels, Miss D. M.	3 0 0
Anon	0 5 0	Chapman, Miss	0 10 0	Henderson, Miss E. M.	1 0 0
Anon	0 5 0	Chelsea W.S.P.U. (Collect-	1 16 2	Henderson, Miss Mary	2 0 0
Anon	0 5 0	ing Boxes)	0 5 0	Henderson, Miss Mildred	0 5 0
Anon	0 5 0	Chillman, Miss A.	0 8 6	Henderson, Robt., Esq.	0 2 0
Anon	0 5 0	Clarke, Miss (Jewellery sold)	1 0 0	Heppell, Miss Ivy	3 0 0
Anon	0 5 0	Clayton, Mrs.	0 3 0	Herbert, C., Esq.	1 0 0
Anon	0 5 0	Clayson, Mrs. L.	0 3 6	Herbert, Mrs.	5 0 0
Anon	0 5 0	Clapham, Miss H. R.	5 5 0	Herman, Mrs. M.	1 0 0
Anon	0 5 0	Clegg, Mrs. Marie	0 10 0	Hill, Miss Margaret E. B. Sc.	0 5 0
Anon	0 5 0	Cohen, Miss Ethel	40 0 0	Hitchins, Mrs. H., M.C.A.	0 2 0
Anon	0 5 0	Cohen, Mrs. Herbert	0 2 0	Hobday, Miss Winifred	0 8 1
Anon	0 5 0	Cooke, Miss Constance	5 0 0	Hodges, Miss Cora	1 1 0
Anon	0 5 0	Copland, Miss H. F.	0 12 6	Homerham, Mrs.	0 5 0
Anon	0 5 0	Corbett, Miss Cicely Dean	0 4 0	Hooper, Mrs. D.	0 6 6
Anon	0 5 0	Cornwall, Miss J. (Organiser	0 8 0	Hopkins, Mrs. Mabel A.	0 2 0
Anon	0 5 0	Fund)	0 4 0	Hornsey W.S.P.U. (Collect-	1 19 3
Anon	0 5 0	Craster, Miss A. (Organiser	0 8 0	ing Boxes in Streets)	5 0 0
Anon	0 5 0	Fund)	0 4 0	Hughes, Miss Cypha P.	3 0 0
Anon	0 5 0	Crews, Miss Maud M.	1 1 0	Hull, Miss Pauline	0 2 6
Anon	0 5 0	Cripps, Rev. John Ivory	0 5 0	Hurlford, Miss A.	0 5 0
Anon	0 5 0	Cruikshank, Miss Mary	0 10 0	Hurford, Miss R.	5 0 0
Anon	0 5 0	(Sale of Sweets)	0 10 0	Hyde, Miss E. M.	1 1 0
Anon	0 5 0	Cullen, Mrs. L. C. (Sale of	0 10 0	Inglis, H., Esq.	0 5 0
Anon	0 5 0	Marmalade)	0 2 0	J. C. G. (Bye-Election)	1 1 0
Anon	0 5 0	D. A. B.	0 6 0	Jacob, Miss L.	1 1 0
Anon	0 5 0	D. A. J. D.	10 0 0	Janau, Mrs. M. P.	1 0 0
Anon	0 5 0	Davies-Colley, Miss Beatrix	0 2 0	Jastrow, Miss	0 5 10
Anon	0 5 0	Dawson, Miss Clara (Organ-	0 4 0	Jensen, Mrs. M. A.	1 1 0
Anon	0 5 0	iser Fund)	1 0 0	Johnes, Mrs. M. de Mont-	1 1 0
Anon	0 5 0	Dawson, Miss L. (Organiser	1 0 0	itchet	1 1 0
Anon	0 5 0	Fund)	0 2 0	Johnson, Miss Lillie	0 2 0
Anon	0 5 0	Dennis, Miss	0 4 0	Johnson, Miss Constance	0 2 0
Anon	0 5 0	Dexter, Mrs. Elisabeth (Bye-	1 0 0	"Jubilant Scotland" per	0 10 0
Anon	0 5 0	Election)	0 2 0	Miss E. Mills	0 3 6
Anon	0 5 0	Dibben, Leslie, Esq. (6d.	0 12 6	K. D., Holland	0 12 0
Anon	0 5 0	weekly)	0 10 0	Kain, Miss Ida	1 0 0
Anon	0 5 0	Dixon, Mrs. L. S.	5 5 0	Kelly, Mrs. Alice	0 5 0
Anon	0 5 0	Docker, Mrs. Edwin	1 0 0	Kelly, Miss May	0 5 0
Anon	0 5 0	Donisthorpe, Miss	1 1 0	Kelly, Miss Una	0 5 0
Anon	0 5 0	Drayton, Miss Frances S.	1 0 0	Kensington W.S.P.U. Col-	37 13 0
Anon	0 5 0	Drucker, Miss Lucy	1 0 0	lecting Boxes at Stations,	0 1 3
Anon	0 5 0	Drummond, Mrs. F.	2 10 0	£18 11s. 3d.; Collecting	0 1 0
Anon	0 5 0	Druy, Miss (Postage Fee)	0 1 0	Boxes at Shop, £3 6s. 9d.;	0 1 0
Anon	0 5 0	Dugdale, Commander E.	1 0 0	Miss Wood and Miss Cann	0 8 0
Anon	0 5 0	R.N.	0 12 6	(making marmalade),	0 8 0
Anon	0 5 0	Dugdale, Miss Joan S. (Bye-	0 10 0	£5 10s.; Miss Warner,	0 8 0
Anon	0 5 0	Election)	0 10 0	£10; Anon (per Miss	0 8 0
Anon	0 5 0	Dugdale and Hughes, The	0 10 0	Munro), 5s.	0 8 0
Anon	0 5 0	Misses (additional profit	0 10 0	Kerr, Miss (per), extra for	0 1 3
Anon	0 5 0	on dance)	0 10 0	papers	0 1 0
Anon	0 5 0	Duleep Singh, Princess S.A.	0 3 0	Kilroy, Miss	0 1 0
Anon	0 5 0	East, Mrs. J. A.	0 3 0	King, Mrs. Annie	0 1 0
Anon	0 5 0	Eigley, Mrs.	0 3 0	Kirby, Miss Mabel (Orga-	0 8 0
Anon	0 5 0	Edmunds, Mrs.	0 5 0	niser Fund)	0 8 0
Anon	0 5 0	Edwards, Mrs.	0 5 0	Knight, Miss Emily (Bye-	0 2 6
Anon	0 5 0	Edwards, Mrs. Le L.	0 5 0	Election)	0 2 6
Anon	0 5 0	Edwards, Miss A. D.	0 5 0	Knight, Miss M. (Organiser	0 8 0
Anon	0 5 0	"Elletto"	0 5 0	Fund)	0 8 0
Anon	0 5 0	Elliot, Miss Dorothy	0 5 0	Knyvett, Lady	2 0 0
Anon	0 5 0	Ellys, Miss Lena	0 5 0	Knyvett, Lady (bye-election)	10 0 0
Anon	0 5 0	Emerson, Mrs. Gertrude	0 5 0	Knyvett, Lady (Organiser	3 2 6
Anon	0 5 0	Fund)	1 0 0	Fund)	1 0 0
Anon	0 5 0	Evans, Mrs. Mary	1 0 0	Koppel, Visgo, Esq.	1 0 0
Bayan, Mrs. M. Sofia	10 0 0				

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Scottish W.S.P.U.	10	0	0	Clack, Miss.	0	3	0
Segaller, Miss (per) ..	0	10	6	Joachim, Miss.	0	4	0
Seymour, Miss Isabel (lec- ture fee and travelling expenses) ..	1	14	0	Mackay, Mrs.	0	2	6
Sharman, Mrs. Maria ..	10	0	0	Rhind, Miss.	0	4	0
Shaw and Boyd, The Misses	0	10	0	Per Miss GAWTHORPE—			
Shaw, Mrs. C. Howard ..	1	1	0	A. K.	0	1	0
Shaw, Miss Jocelyn Howard (aged seven) ..	0	7	0	H. S.	0	6	0
Sheppard, Miss Mina ..	3	0	0	"A Sympathiser" (per Miss Marks) ..	2	0	0
Shillington, Mrs. A. M. (for hospitality) ..	0	10	0	Broadsmith, Miss E. H. (per)	0	2	6
Shipley, Mrs. L.	0	5	0	Fairfield, Dr. L. (per) ..	0	10	0
Simon, Mrs.	0	10	0	Firth, Miss.	0	1	0
Simpson, Mrs.	1	0	0	Fitzsimmons, Miss.	3	0	0
Simpson, Miss F. J.	0	10	0	Harrop, Miss E.	1	0	0
Simpson, Miss Bina (weekly)	0	0	6	Hines, Miss (per) ..	0	5	0
Slay, Miss Evelyn V.	0	2	0	Hoy, Mrs.	1	0	0
Sleight, Mrs. M. E.	1	0	0	Hyland, Mrs. Rose ..	25	0	0
Smart, Miss Laura ..	0	7	0	Lawton, Miss H. (sale of toffee) ..	0	2	6
Smith, E. Tennyson, Esq.	1	1	0	Lecture fee ..	0	6	6
Smith, Miss B. A.	9	1	0	Liverpool W.S.P.U. (per Mrs. Farrer) ..	2	5	0
Smith, Mrs. D. Coleridge ..	0	10	6	Lyster, G. H., Esq.	1	0	0
Smith, Mrs. Elizabeth ..	2	0	0	Members' Guarantee Fund, Manchester ..	2	5	6
Smith, Miss M.	1	2	6	Per Miss A. HOWAR—			
Smith, Miss N. E.	2	0	0	Pilbury, Mrs.	0	5	0
Smith, Miss K. Douglas ..	2	12	8	Stevens, Mrs.	0	5	0
Snowman, Mrs. Pearl ..	1	1	0	Votes for Women (extra paid in street) ..	0	3	10
Soden, Mrs. Wilfred (Exhi- bition Fund) ..	2	1	0	Per Miss KEEVIL—			
Solomon, Mrs. Saul ..	7	7	0	Lecture fees ..	1	6	0
Stacey, Mr. and Mrs., and Family ..	6	0	0	Travelling expenses and lecture fee ..	1	12	6
Stainforth, Miss (per Horn- sey W.S.P.U.) ..	0	10	0	Anon ..	5	0	0
Stephen, Miss B.	1	0	0	Croasbe, Mrs. Walter ..	1	1	0
Stephenson, Miss Jessie ..	2	2	0	Deaman, —, Esq. (don.) ..	0	2	6
Stevens, Mrs. L. B. (Exhi- bition Fund) ..	5	5	0	Earl, Miss Rhoda ..	1	0	0
Stevenson, Misses E. and G. P. (copies of Votes for Women sold) ..	0	5	0	Floyd, Miss Mary ..	10	0	0
Stiell, Mrs. J.	1	1	0	Jones, Dr. H. (per), travell- ing expenses paid ..	0	2	8
Stones, Miss A.	0	2	6	Keevil, Miss Gladice ..	1	1	0
Street, Irwin, Esq.	0	5	6	Kinkelen, Miss F.	0	3	0
Students of Midland Baptist College, per M. Clair Underwood, Esq. (donation)	1	0	0	Kirby, Miss ..	0	10	0
Sutcliffe, Mr. W. St. John ..	0	2	6	"Marmalade Bee" ..	1	1	0
Sutherland, Mrs. W.	0	5	0	Neale, Miss.	0	10	0
Sykes, Miss H. G.	0	5	0	Rabnett, Miss Ida ..	0	1	6
Talbot, Miss Lillian ..	2	10	0	Street collection ..	1	7	8
Temperley, Miss Ethel ..	2	2	0	Wenham, A. E., Esq. (per Mrs. Kerwood) ..	5	0	0
Temple, Miss Elina ..	1	1	0	Per Miss A. KENNEY—			
Thomas, Miss F. M.	1	1	0	Street collection ..	0	12	1
Thomas, Mrs. Sybil ..	5	0	0	Sale of marmalade ..	0	0	8
Thompson, Miss Mary D.	0	10	0	Whist drive ..	1	11	6
Thomson, The Misses ..	1	0	0	Sale of sweets ..	0	0	6
Thomson, Miss M. P.	1	0	0	Anon ..	0	5	0
Tite, Mrs. Mildred ..	1	1	0	Anon ..	1	0	0
Townley, The Misses ..	5	0	0	Anon (donation) ..	1	1	0
Tucker, Mrs. M. A. (Organ- iser Fund) ..	0	5	0	Baker & Stock, the Misses	1	0	0
Take, Mrs. M.	3	0	0	Boltho, Mrs.	1	0	0
Turner, Misses M. and W.	0	2	6	Boyd - Carpenter, Mrs. John P.	1	0	0
Turle, Miss Caroline ..	10	0	0	Churchill, Miss Irene ..	0	10	0
Two Friends ..	0	3	6	Evans, Mrs.	0	5	0
Vincent, Miss Louisa ..	0	13	0	Farnall, Miss Ida ..	0	10	0
Votes for Women (extra paid, per Miss Jacobs) ..	0	0	10	Freeguard, Mrs.	0	2	0
Wallace-Dunlop, Miss Con- stance ..	0	10	0	Fussell, Miss Maude ..	2	2	0
Walsh, Miss Constance (Organiser Fund) ..	0	6	6	Haig, Mrs. (home-made sweets) ..	0	5	11
Ward, Mrs. E. M.	1	0	0	Hatfield, Miss L. (col- lected) ..	0	2	6
Ward, Miss Frances ..	2	10	0	Loan of flag ..	0	1	0
Ward, Miss M. L.	0	2	6	Mason, Mrs.	0	5	0
Ward-Higgs, Mrs.	1	1	0	May, Miss C.	0	2	6
Warner, Misses E. and M.	0	10	0	Petalok, Miss Dorothy ..	10	0	0
Warwick, Miss Ethel (Organ- iser Fund) ..	0	2	0	Stephens, Mrs. H.	0	5	0
Watson, Mrs. (collected) ..	0	12	0	Watkins, Mrs. Channing..	0	5	0
Watson, Miss G. Lindsay ..	0	10	0	Wawn, Mrs.	1	0	0
Webb, Mrs. L.	0	1	0	Young, Mrs. M. A.	5	0	0
Webster, Miss W. (sale of cakes) ..	0	10	0	Per Miss J. KENNEY—			
Welch, Mrs. H.	0	1	0	Collecting boxes in streets	6	12	6
Wentworth, Miss B.	0	1	0	Flower selling in streets ..	3	2	6
Wheaton, Miss G.	0	5	0	Sweet selling in streets ..	8	6	9
Whitaker, Mrs. E. L.	2	0	0	Signed photos ..	0	5	0
Whitaker, Miss Ivy ..	0	5	0	Per Miss MACAULAY—			
Whitaker, Miss J. (for flowers and sweets for Self Denial) ..	0	5	0	"A Friend" ..	1	0	0
Whitaker, Miss Stella ..	0	5	0	A Friend (per Miss Mac- gregor) ..	0	2	6
White, Mrs. E. C.	0	6	6	Anon ..	1	0	0
White, Miss Diana ..	0	10	0	Anon (donation) ..	0	0	6
Wiebel, Mrs. Alice (Organ- iser Fund) ..	0	7	0	Charlton, Mrs.	0	2	6
Williams, Miss A. K.	1	0	0	Dairy Working Man (bye- election Fund) ..	0	1	0
Williams, —, Esq. (per Mrs. M. B. Burman) ..	0	16	0	Dempster, Mrs.	1	0	0
Williams, Mr. and Mrs. H.	1	0	0	Gould, Mrs. Finlayson ..	0	2	6
Willcock, Mrs. Carl ..	0	5	0	Graham, Miss Yeenda ..	0	4	0
Willcock, Mrs. M.	2	0	0	Haig, Miss C. W. (bye- election) ..	1	1	0
Willson, Miss A. E.	6	0	0	Haig, Miss K. (bye-election)	3	3	0
Wilson, Nurse Helen ..	0	1	0	Ivory, Mr. and Mrs.	25	0	0
Willshire, Miss J. M., per London City W.S.P.U. (Organiser Fund) ..	0	10	0	Login, Miss ..	1	0	0
Willshire, Mrs. P. S.	1	0	0	Robertson, Mrs.	1	2	6
Withers, Mrs. Hartley (for hospitality) ..	0	15	0	Rothwell, Mrs. Roy (per)	0	11	0
Wollheim, Miss Helen ..	0	10	0	Smart, Miss Sylvia ..	0	5	0
Wood, Miss A. N. (Organiser Fund) ..	0	4	0	Stewart, Mrs.	2	10	0
"Working Woman" ..	0	3	8	Per Miss MARSH—			
Wright, Miss A. C. (Bye- election) ..	4	10	0	Travelling expenses paid	0	10	0
Wright, Miss Florence M.	15	0	0	Anon ..	0	12	0
Wyatt, Miss Elsie (Gold Bracelet) ..	1	5	0	Anon (for motor-boat) ..	2	9	0
Y. H. B's. (Street Collections and sweets and signed Post- card selling) ..	10	0	1	Anon (sale of railway tickets) ..	0	5	7
Yates, Mrs.	2	2	0	Anonymous donations ..	3	19	0
Zangwill, Mrs. (Exhibition Fund) ..	5	0	0	Atkinson, Mrs. (bye-elec- tion) ..	0	18	0
Per Miss S. A. FLATMAN—				Sale of goods ..	0	2	6
Anon (for advertisement)	0	7	6	Taylor, Mrs.	50	0	0
Dawson, Miss ..	0	4	6	Per Miss A. PANKHURST—			
				Gaskell, G. Penn, Esq. ..	2	10	0
				Keith, Mrs.	0	5	0
				Ogston, Mrs.	0	7	6
				Per Miss M. PHILLIPS—			
				"A Sympathiser" ..	1	0	0
				Macgregor, Miss (bye-elec- tion) ..	1	0	0
				Per Miss V. WENTWORTH—			
				Groom, Miss ..	0	5	0
				Membership entrance fees	18	8	6
				Self-denial collecting cards	1,213	7	2
				Collections, &c.	834	13	3
				Total ..	£12,936	2	

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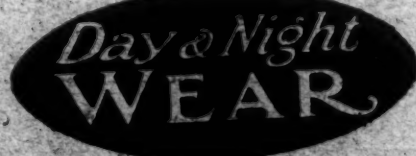
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LOCAL NOTES.

Barnes W.S.P.U.—We held an At Home at Byfield Hall on Friday last, when Mrs. Mansell-Moulin spoke, and Mrs. Whitaker, of Putney, took the chair. Mrs. Whitaker briefly explained the objects of the Union, and mentioned that she had signed a petition twenty years ago, and until the militant methods we were no nearer getting the vote than then. Mrs. Mansell-Moulin, in speaking, said the best life was one lived for the community, and women could attend to their homes and children and yet have time for helping on reform. A special appeal was made to all women to come forward and help. Miss Whitaker's recitation, "The Premier and the Suffragettes" caused much amusement.

ALICIA ROSE.

Brighton and Hove W.S.P.U.—Our Dome meeting on Friday, March 26th, with Miss Helen Ogston, B.Sc., as principal speaker, and Miss Hall as chairman, was the event of the week. We had a capital audience, and sold a good deal of literature. Several of our members went to Croydon last Saturday. Our Saturday afternoon meeting on the Front was made especially interesting by the presence of Miss Turner, formerly secretary to the Chichester W.L.A. Miss Christabel Pankhurst is coming in May, when we celebrate our second anniversary as a local union. To-day (Friday) we shall hold our meeting as usual at 8 p.m., at 8, North Street Quadrant. Open-air meetings, Wednesdays and Saturdays, 2.30, Western Boundary, Front. Other meetings according to weather. Members who would like to take part in these last, please come to the office at 7 or 7.30 p.m. "Votes Corps" will meet at 8, North Street Quadrant at 11.30 a.m. Saturdays.

I. G. McKEOWN.

Chelsea W.S.P.U.—Will members and friends make a point of being present at our weekly At Homes on Wednesdays, 8.30 p.m., at 93, Oakley Street. We wish to make definite plans for our open-air meetings, and it is at these At Homes that we decide upon our speakers for the next ten days. It would be a great convenience and help to the secretary if anyone free to speak or take the chair would then give in her name, so that the list may be sent for insertion in the Programme of Events. We are hoping that Dr. Christine Murrell will speak at one of our At Homes after the Easter holidays. This week we have asked for the number and size of pictures that are being sent to the Art Stall, as the Exhibition Committee are now apportioning the space. We wish it to be clearly understood that Miss Downing has arranged for an Art Union, so that no picture will be sold under its value. We are now asking that those members who have not yet written to us with promises of gifts will send full details, with the approximate money value, and also any promises of help for our shop that we hope to open after Easter, to Miss Blacklock, hon. Exhibition secretary, 51, Beaufort Mansions.

CHARLOTTE BLACKLOCK.

Forest Gate and Wanstead W.S.P.U.—We are holding an open-air meeting to-day (Friday), at the corner of Sebert Road, at 7.30, and hope many members will come to help to distribute handbills and sell literature. We are meeting at Forest Gate Station on Saturday, at 11 o'clock, to advertise the meeting in Earlham Hall, on Tuesday, April 6. I hope everybody who can possibly come will do so, as we shall need a lot of workers for handbill distribution.

M. E. SLEIGHT.

Hendon W.S.P.U.—Our next work in Hendon is to make a success of the At Home given by Mrs. Bousfield and Mrs. Wyatt, at the Council Offices, on Wednesday, April 7, at 4 o'clock. It will be a reception in honour of our released prisoner, Mrs. Fahey, to whom a presentation will be made. Miss Una Stratford Dugdale will be the principal speaker. We hope that all our members and friends will let nothing prevent their being present.

FRANCES V. CREATON.

Hornsey W.S.P.U.—There are still tickets to be had at 2s. 6d. (inclusive) for our whist drive at the Assembly Rooms, Middle Lane, Crouch End, on Saturday evening, April 3. Every ticket sold now will be clear profit for the Exhibition Fund. We hope that the money gained will be doubled, by friends undertaking to make up for our stall the materials we shall buy. Will every Hornsey member try to get promises of work, and also let me know how much time they can give. Will members send any special orders for goods which they would be willing to buy from our stall. Miss Hanby, of 62, Crouch Hill, has kindly undertaken to do any jewellery repairs, putting in new brooch pins, etc., and give all the proceeds from now till May 18 to our fund. Local members are asked to give little jobs to her to do. At our meeting on Friday last Miss Wyatt took the chair, and Miss Dugdale made an excellent speech.

THEODORA BONWICK.

Hull W.S.P.U.—On Saturday last Miss Little and I again visited the football ground with VOTES FOR WOMEN, and though the sale was not so rapid as the previous week, we disposed of double the number of copies. Recruits for this work are urgently needed. Hull members desire to express their warmest appreciation of the noble sacrifice of Lady Constance Lytton and other members of the N.W.S.P.U., and offer heartiest congratulations on their release from prison.

M. HARRISON.

Lewisham W.S.P.U.—On Monday, March 21, Miss Smith, of Streatham, addressed a large meeting in the Market Place, Lewisham. A large number of "Votes" were sold. Our Brockley meeting on the 25th ult. was most successful. Miss C. Townsend, fresh from Holloway, was presented with an illuminated address and a bouquet, both in the colours of the Union. Miss Ogston spoke on the militant tactics. Several new members were enrolled, with whom Miss Campbell will start the Brockley Ward. A collection was taken of £1 4s. 6d.

(Mrs.) LIZZIE MCKENZIE.

Marylebone W.S.P.U.—On Tuesday, Miss Agnes Kelly addressed a well-attended drawing-room meeting, organised by Mrs. Fry, and two more drawing-room meetings have been arranged for next week. We are making preparations for a house-to-house canvass, which we hope to carry out soon after the Easter holidays. Will any members living in Marylebone, who can help in this or any other way, kindly communicate with Mrs. Nourse, 20, Weymouth Street, W., or with Miss Genie Sheppard, 13, Upper Berkeley Street, W.

GENIE SHEPPARD.

Nottingham W.S.P.U.—On Thursday, March 25, members met at the Midland Station to welcome Miss Helen Watts after her month in Holloway. In the evening there was a large muster at the supper held in her honour. Mrs. Simon presided, and Miss Watts herself gave a graphic account of her prison life. Miss Stevenson, Rev. Alan Watts, and Rev. Lloyd Thomas also spoke. On Friday our leader, Mrs. Pankhurst, spoke to a large and enthusiastic audience in the Mechanics' Hall. Miss Dorothy Pethick took the chair. It was the best meeting ever held in Nottingham. The resolution was carried amid great enthusiasm. We owe many thanks for the splendid work done by our members in working up the meeting and in acting as stewards, and to the men in Nottingham who generously volunteer as stewards for these public meetings.

C. M. BURGIS.

Putney and Fulham W.S.P.U.—Several of our members were working at Croydon at the end of last week. Will all those willing to help as literature sellers, chalkers, etc., make a special effort to attend the meeting at 20, Churchfield Mansions, New King's Road, this Friday (April 2), at 8 p.m. A very successful open-air meeting was held in Welmar Street, Putney, on Friday of last week. Miss Naylor was the speaker, and Mrs. Davies took the chair. Tickets for the whist-drive can be had from the Fulham secretary, Miss Cutten, 48, St. Maur Road, Fulham. Promise-cards for the Exhibition will be supplied by Miss Levanton, the Exhibition secretary.

H. ROBERTS.

L. CUTTEN.

THE SUFFRAGETTES' "MOTHER."

In opening the Hampstead Garden Suburb on Saturday, Canon Barnett said all disliked any sort of closed door. It was wrong of Bluebeard to keep a closed door, and personally he thought Fatima was quite right to open it. She, at any rate, was the mother of all Suffragettes.

WATCHING THE FUN.

From behind police protection the Members watched the fun.—Daily Paper.

When a score or so of women, armed with their sex's cause,
Went (without police protection) to the makers of our laws,
To ask that right and equity and justice should be done,
From behind police protection the Members watched the fun!

Have these gentlemen (?) forgotten the deeds, so true and brave,
Done by women in past times their fellow-men to save?
Did they think of Florence Nightingale, to mention only one,
When behind police protection they stood and watched the fun?

When they think of all the sport they've missed, living in this milder age,
I'm sure they swear and stamp their feet, and gnash their teeth with rage.
Had they lived when Joan of Arc was burnt, no doubt they would have run
Behind police protection, and have stood and watched the fun.

They might have seen Jane Grey, so wise, and Mary, Scotland's Queen,
Lose their heads upon the block—grand times those must have been!
They might have seen Hypatia torn to pieces by the mob—
Oh! the fun they've missed, and the sport they've lost! It almost makes one sob!

Could the Suffragettes be burnt alive in, say, Trafalgar Square,
And Parliament have an "evening off" so that Members could be there,
I'm sure the thing quite thoroughly and properly would be done,
And behind police protection they could stand and watch the fun.

Now, each gentleman (?) had a mother, who, if she's living still,
Must glow with admiration, and with pride her heart must thrill
When she reads how brave and chivalrous was the behaviour of her son,
When, behind police protection, he stood and watched the fun.

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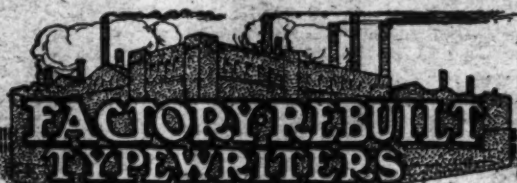
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Whatever may be felt about some of the methods of the militant section of the Suffragettes, no reasonable person can doubt their earnestness, their self-sacrificing industry, or the absolute purity of their motives. The insinuations so frequently heard that these devoted women are seeking notoriety, that they love the cheap martyrdom of Holloway Gaol, and of police-court appearances are entirely without foundation. . . . It was impossible to listen to Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Gawthorpe, and Miss Mary Phillips at the Women's Parliament on Wednesday night without feeling that they have before them the loftiest ideals. They are labouring for the amelioration of the lot of the working woman. They honestly believe that the best, if not the only course, is to make woman of importance politically, and that can only be done by giving women the vote on the same terms as men. . . . The Suffragette claims will have to be dealt with legislatively, and that very soon. The movement cannot be ignored. Mr. Asquith is making the greatest mistake in declining to receive a deputation and hear a statement from the leaders' own lips in defence of their methods, and in explanation of their policy and aims. The desire to lay their case before the Chief Minister of the Crown is reasonable and in harmony with the Constitution, and Mr. Asquith's persistent refusal to accede to their wishes is wholly without justification. . . . Why should he not receive them? Mr. Asquith receives deputations of men, who lay before him all kinds of grievances and demands. As a simple matter of fairness and equity, if for no other reason, he ought to receive the Suffragettes. They are citizens if they are not voters. His refusal to see them is the root cause of all the trouble in London, and has led to the imprisonment of women whose only offence is that of seeking to secure the rights of citizenship. . . . Incidentally, Mr. Asquith's attitude is a very strong argument for the concession of votes to women. The Premier would not refuse to receive a deputation of women if women had votes. . . . We do not know how far, if at all, the anti-Suffragette movement was represented on Wednesday night. If any "antis" were present, they must have had a cold time in the presence of the unbounded affection for the Suffragette leaders and devotion to the cause displayed by the audience.

—"Manchester Weekly Times," March 27.

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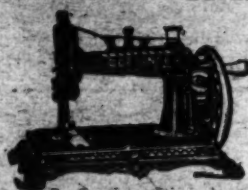
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